MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

7 SEPTEMBER 1982

Arab Summit Conference

Moroccan King Hassan II opened the reconvened 12th Arab summit conference in Fes on 6 September with a short speech in which he noted the conference would start with a closed session. In his remarks, broadcast live by Rabat radio, King Hassan also called on the Palestinian delegation headed by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to participate "constructively and effectively" in the conference. The conferees will discuss Lebanon, the Saudi and Tunisian peace plans, the Iran-Iraq war, the Horn of Africa and issues connected with Arab solidarity and the settlement of inter-Arab disputes, according to the summit's draft agenda carried by MAP. Lebanon will be discussed within the framework of working papers presented by Lebanon, the PLO and Syria. However, the Lebanese delegation is headed merely by Minister of State Joseph Abu Khatir because of Lebanon's displeasure over the failure of its request for a postponement of the conference and over the outcome of the foreign ministers meeting in Mohammedia, according to AFP. A Palestinian program broadcast over Damascus radio likewise expressed disapproval of the Arab League's refusal to hear a PLO request to delay the conference until after a Palestine National Council meeting.

Prior to the conference opening session, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad met with Saudi King Fahd and various Gulf leaders, Damascus radio reported. Iraqi President Saddam Husayn held consultations with Jordanian King Husayn, according to Amman radio. Libyan leader Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi meanwhile confirmed his refusal to attend the conference, saying the moral spirit of the Arab masses would collapse if he personally were to participate, Tripoli radio reported.

Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba told the conferees in a message broadcast by Tunis radio to consider "some solutions which do not give immediate satisfaction but...open the door of the future" and to avoid emotion and extreme stands. Saudi King Fahd wished the summit success in a speech transmitted by SPA, and expressed satisfaction with the Arab leaders' intention to find a unified stand on the important issues facing them. Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri announced earlier that he will propose Egypt's return to the Arab fold at the summit, MENA reported.

Arab Reaction to Reagan Proposals

Describing President Ronald Reagan's Middle East peace plan as a "breakthrough," a 3 September Riyadh radio commentary said the proposal for the transfer of authority in the autonomy area from Israel to Jordan is positive but that the failure to address the question of Palestinian representation and statehood is negative. Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal subsequently told 'UKAZ that the kingdom will determine its attitude toward the U.S. proposals after consultations with the PLO and other Arabs, according to SPA.

Egyptian President Husni Mubarak welcomed the Reagan proposals as "positive and constructive" in a Belgrade speech carried by MENA, delivered at a banquet hosted by the Yugoslav president. On the other hand, the Syrian paper TISHRIN criticized the U.S. plan in a 6 September editorial reported by Damascus radio. The plan does not respond to Arab interests, TISHRIN said, and will not achieve a just and lasting peace.

Jerusalem radio reported that Jordanian King Husayn has told Reagan that he will be a partner to the U.S. plan but will not now publicly adopt it. Jordanian papers reviewed by Amman radio on 3 September noted positive points in the U.S. plan.

Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf, in a DER SPIEGEL interview, spoke of "positive elements" and "new tones which just cannot be ignored" in Reagan's plan. Although the U.S. President's speech "does not quite satisfy" the PLO, "it is not at all bad as a beginning." he added. However, Voice of Lebanon radio claimed that during a visit to northern Lebanon, Khalaf said the PLO rejects Reagan's initiative. Meanwhile, the PLO Executive Committee discussed the Reagan plan in a 4-5 September meeting in Tunisia, according to a PLO spokesman's

statement carried by Tunis radio. A PLO official denied earlier reports that the PLO has decided to reject the U.S. plan, KUNA noted. PFLP and DFLP leaders George Habash and Nayif Hawatimah, respectively, did not attend the meeting in Tunisia, according to AFP. The PFLP and DFLP had earlier announced their opposition to the Reagan plan, Damascus radio noted.

Israel

Begin Letter, New Settlements -- What some call the "West Bank" is "Judaea and Samaria," and this simple historic truth will never change, Prime Minister Menahem Begin wrote in a letter to President Reagan published by THE JERUSALEM POST on 6 September. Asserting that friends and allies do not weaken or jeopardize each other, Begin reaffirmed that a Palestinian state providing a Soviet base would be the inevitable result of Reagan's proposals for placing The West Bank and Gaza under Jordanian jurisdiction. Begin also protested Reagan's failure to consult Israel before forwarding the U.S. proposals to Jordan and Saudi Arabia and likewise indicated displeasure that Reagan had not praised the courage and sacrifices of the IDF in Lebanon.

In the wake of the U.S. proposals, which call for a freeze on settlements, the ministerial Committee for Settlement Affairs approved the establishment of eight Israeli settlements in the West Bank and Gaza, according to Jerusalem radio. Construction of four presettlements was accelerated since Israel received the proposals, the radio noted. However, Deputy Prime Minister Simha Ehrlich subsequently said that plans for the new settlements were laid many months ago and that the committee's announcement was not an attempt to protest Reagan's proposals, according to remarks broadcast by Jerusalem television.

West Bank -- Security forces shot dead an Arab boy while hunting for the perpetrator of an attack on a bus in the Tulkarm District, Jerusalem radio reported. Earlier, disturbances broke out in Nabulus following the shooting of an Arab demonstrator by an IDF patrol on 3 September, according to the radio.

Lebanon

Sharon on Peace Treaty; Begin Meeting With Al-Jumayyil -- Israeli Defense Minister Sharon warned that if Lebanon does not sign a peace treaty with Israel, the 40-50-km strip along southern Lebanon will be given special status to ensure Israel's security. In remarks at a ceremony in an Israeli town on 6 September, carried by Jerusalem radio, Sharon insisted that peace with Lebanon is essential and that not one Syrian soldier or "terrorist" can remain on Lebanese territory.

In the meeting between Israeli Prime Minister Begin and Lebanese President-elect Bashir al-Jumayyil, Jerusalem radio revealed that Begin criticized the positions and attitude taken by Al-Jumayyil toward Israel. At the same time, Al-Jumayyil's office denied that the meeting had ever taken place, Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

Opposition to Al-Jumayyil, Peace Treaty -- The assembly of political forces of northern Lebanon issued a statement calling for nonrecognition and boycott of the new Al-Jumayyil presidency, AFP reported. The group warned against signing a peace treaty with Israel and called for an all out struggle against the Israeli forces in Lebanon. Meanwhile, the National Islamic Group issued a statement carried by Beirut radio which rejected a treaty with Israel, and called for disbanding all armed militias and for Lebanese sovereignty and unity.

Security Situation -- Israeli Defense Minister Sharon warned Syria not to harm eight IDF soldiers kidnapped from an IDF post near Bhamdun in central Lebanon, Jerusalem radio reported. According to the radio, Sharon made it clear that Israel regarded this act as a serious violation of the cease-fire agreement. In an interview with IDF radio, Israeli Deputy Prime Minister David Levi indicated that Israel has many ways to retaliate against Syria for this act, including "far more extensive and sophisticated" actions. Meanwhile, Jerusalem radio asserted the Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces claimed responsibility for the kidnapping in an announcement broadcast over the radio of the Independent Nasirite Movement-Al-Murabitun.

A Syrian military spokesman cited by Damascus radio stated that in a clash between Syrian and Israeli soldiers, the IDF suffered three killed and three wounded, while the Syrians lost one dead and three wounded.

Citing a Lebanese television report, Jerusalem radio said Israel presented the Lebanese Government with an ultimatum to evacuate 2,000 armed Palestinians from southern Beirut, or Israel would act in the matter itself. Damascus radio revealed that clashes occurred between the IDF and leftist forces near Al-Jinah and that the Israelis have occupied the Hungarian and PDRY Embassies. Denying the embassy seizure, the IDF spokesman stressed that the IDF honors the sovereignty of all foreign embassies in Beirut, Jerusalem radio reported. Voice of Lebanon radio confirmed that the IDF withdrew from Hayy as-Sullum and headed southward.

U.S., Italian and French envoys have presented a plan to the Lebanese president for the withdrawal of their forces beginning 10 September, the Voice of Lebanon reported.

Iran-Iraq War

Military Situation -- An Iraqi military spokesman, in a statement carried by Baghdad radio on 4 September, announced that Iraqi forces destroyed two oil tankers and two other vessels near Khark Island and the Iranian coast. The Turkish Foreign Ministry confirmed that one of its vessels sank as a result of the attack, AFP reported. In another development, IRNA claimed that the Iranian Navy destroyed an Iraqi vessel. Meanwhile, the official spokesman for the Iraqi Embassy in London denied reports of an agreement between Iran and Iraq to avoid hitting each other's oil installations, INA reported.

In a new Iranian offensive launched early 5 September, various groups attacked positions inside Iraq and killed or wounded over 180 Iraqi soldiers, an Iranian Guards Corps communique carried by Tehran radio asserted. IRNA reports claimed that over 70 Iraqis were also killed or wounded in firing across the Shatt al-'Arab. Iraqi communiques carried by Baghdad radio and INA alleged that over 80 Iranians died in fighting on various fronts.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Remarks -- Delivering the Friday prayers in Tehran, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani declared in remarks carried by Tehran radio that the Western world should be adivsed that if Iran is deprived -- by the United States or others -- of its oil resources and use of the Persian Gulf, then all will be deprived of Persian Gulf oil. He alleged that Iran is in "full control" of its oil production and that Iraqi missiles fired at Khark Island are inaccurate at the distances they are used. In a subsequent interview carried by the radio, he stressed that there are no problems concerning Khark and that Iran would insure some tankers itself. He denied that his earlier statements meant Iran would close the Strait of Hormuz, adding that he only meant Iran would make the area unsafe for oil to leave the Gulf. He stressed it would be unwise to allow the Gulf to be safe for everyone except Iran.

Iran

Tehran Bomb Blast -- A powerful explosion rocked the center of Tehran on 6 September, killing about 20 people and wounding 100 others, Tehran radio reported. The radio noted that the victims were passersby and claimed that U.S. "agents" committed the "disgusting crime."

Khomeyni on Purge -- Those individuals responsible for purging and reorganizing government ministries and departments should themselves be carefully scrutinized since all groups serving the people have been penetrated by "troublemakers, deviationists and hypocrites," Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni warned in a 5 September speech broadcast by Tehran radio. However, people should not be purged just because they were associated with the shah's regime, he added, and experts should remain in their posts.

Kho'ini Advice to Pilgrims -- Noting that Iran condemns any Arab summit proposal for the recognition of Israel, pilgrim superviser Musavi-Kho'ini told pilgrims to Mecca to make legitimate protests against such "plots." In his remarks, which were read over Tehran radio, Kho'ini nevertheless cautioned the Iranian pilgrims to avoid clashing with Saudi Government officials and to avoid disrupting prayers in the holy shrines.

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ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE CONVENES IN FES

Delegations Arrive

LD062226 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Excerpts] The 12th Arab summit conference will begin tomorrow in Fes, the birthplace of Arab civilization, which has been adorned to receive the kings and presidents of Arab countries or their representatives. This Arab summit meeting assumes great importance due to changes in the Arab arena following the recent Israeli aggression in southern Lebanon and the suffering of the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples, and the international consensus to condemn the aggression.

So far, delegates from 15 countries, including 11 heads of state, have arrived in Fes to take part in the 5th Arab summit to be held in Morocco. The following have arrived at Fes airport: King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the Saudi Arabian monarch; King Husayn, the Jordanian monarch; Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad; UAE President Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan; Amir of Kuwait Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah; Amir of Qatar Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Thani; Amir of Bahrain 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah; Sudanese President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri; YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih; Somali President Siad Barre; Djibouti President Hassan Gouled; Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali; Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan; Lebanese Minister of State Joseph Abu Khatir and the adviser to the sultan of Oman, (At-Tuwayni ibn Shihab).

It is expected that PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and heads of the Algerian, Mauritanian and PDRY delegations will arrive in Fes tomorrow morning.

UN Official Arrives

LD051110 Rabat MAP in Arabic 0905 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Text] Casablanca, 5 Sep (MAP) -- The president of the UN General Assembly, Ismat Kittani, arrived at Mohamed V International Airport in Casablanca today. He will attend the second part of the 12th Arab summit conference due to open tomorrow in Fes. Ismat Kittani expressed his pleasure in a news statement in responding to the invitation of His Majesty King Hassan II to attend the work of the Fes summit. He wished the conference success in achieving the aspirations of the Arab nation.

Mauritanian Delegate Arrives

LD060036 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Text] The Mauritanian deputy foreign minister, Mohamed Ould Daha, arrived at Mohamed V International Airport in Casablanca a short while ago to represent his country at the Fes summit conference. The Mauritanian official was met by the secretary general of the Ministry of State for Foreign affairs, (Ahmed Hamoud) and a number of other officials.

'Arafat Arrives

LD061412 Rabat MAP in English 1315 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] Fes, Sept 6 (MAP) -- President of the PLO Executive Committee Yasir 'Arafat arrived here at 12.45 (GMT) to attend the second stage of the twelfth Arab summit. The Palestinian leader was greeted upon arrival by King Hassan II of Morocco and by all the Arab kings, emirs, presidents and heads of delegations present in Fes.

Saddam Husayn Arrives

JN061832 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1827 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] Fes, 6 Sep (INA) -- President Saddam Husayn arrived here this evening to attend the 12th Arab summit conference which will open here later today.

Presummit Meeting

LD061714 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] Arab kings and presidents in Fes to attend the work of the 12th Arab summit conference held a closed meeting today immediately after the arrival of Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee. The meeting, restricted to Arab kings, presidents and amirs, was convened before the opening session of the Arab summit.

Invitation to Egypt Discussed

GF061854 Doha QNA in Arabic 1130 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 6 Sep (QNA) -- Press reports here expect Egypt will be invited to attend the 12th Arab summit conference which will resume in Fes this evening. In a report to it from Rabat, AL-FAJR newspaper said that the individual talks among the leaders of the Arab nation upon arrival in Fes yesterday dealt with great enthusiasm on the issue of eliminating Arab differences and restoring unity of Arab ranks, including Egypt. The newspaper added that the consultations centered on Egypt's return to the Arab nation and its invitation to attend the Arab summit in Fes.

Jordanian, Iraqi Leaders Meet

JN062131 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] Fes -- His Majesty King Husayn has resumed meetings and consultations with Arab leaders. At 2230 Jordanian time, His Majesty King Husayn met with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, who arrived in Fes this evening to head his country's delegation to the 12th Arab summit conference. His majesty and President Saddam Husayn reviewed the situation in the Arab arena, the future of Arab action and the topics that will be discussed at the Fes summit.

Al-Asad Holds Meetings

JN062151 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Excerpts] Fes -- President Hafiz al-Asad today held a series of meetings with the heads of delegations participating in the Arab summit conference. From 1800 to 2000 today the president met separately with Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, Qatari Amir Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani and Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah. The talks dealt with the issues submitted to the Arab summit conference and those related to joint Arab action.

At 2030 the president met with Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and they exchanged views on the Arab summit issues.

King Fahd Speech

LD061818 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1745 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] Fes, 6 Sep (SPA) -- His Exalted Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has expressed his wishes for the success of the 12th Arab summit conference.

In a speech on the occasion of convening the conference, his majesty expressed satisfaction with the firm determination on the part of Arab leaders to find a unified Arab stand toward the important issues facing our nation. Following is the text of the speech:

I pray to Almighty God, while we are about to resume the work of the 12th Arab summit conference, that our efforts will be crowned with success and that the Arab leaders will be guided toward realizing the aspirations of the Arab nation at this crucial stage in joint Arab action. On this occasion, I express my satisfaction with the firm intention on the part of the brother leaders to find a unified Arab stand toward the important issues that face our nation, praying to Almighty God to help us in discharging our duty and in leading us to the path of serving our nation.

King Hassan Opening Speech

LD062240 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2140 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Speech by Moroccan King Hassan II opening the 12th Arab summit conference in Fes -- live]

[Text] Thanks be to God and prayers and peace be upon our Lord, the messenger of God and his family and companions.

Your Majesties, Your Highnesses, Your Excellencies:

With God's will, help and strength, we all decide and state that the second session of the 12th Arab summit conference has opened. All know the circumstances that led to the postponement of this session and we all know today the circumstances that led to its resumption. I will not make a long speech, because this meeting is but a resumption of what preceded it, but before I conclude I would like first of all to thank Almighty God in my own name and in the name of all of you, for He helped Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and his companions to reach their homeland and country safe and sound with Godspeed. I hope their delegation will participate constructively and effectively in order that we may arrive at the results at which we all wish to arrive for the sake of the entire Arab nation and for the dignity of Muslims in general.

The kings and presidents held a closed session this morning devoted to organizing the work of the conference. They first decided to hold the meetings in closed session. The meaning of closed session is that all the delegations will consist of the head of the delegation and two assistants. The conference also decided -- the working session -- that there will be one spokesman for the sessions if the conference feels that a statement or statements should be made. The spokesman for our sessions is the Moroccan foreign minister, who is assisted by Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi. Any statement made by anyone else is binding only on the person who makes the statement.

Finally, we pray to Almighty God to guide our steps and help us and lead us to the right path.

Your Majesties, Your Excellencies and Highnesses, if you wish we will declare the official session concluded and we will go into closed session with one head and two assistants. God is our help and peace. The blessing of God be upon you. [applause]

Draft Agenda

LD061426 Rabat MAP in English 1303 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Underlined passages as received]

[Text] Fes, Sept 6 (MAP) -- The second stage of the twelfth Arab summit of Fes that is to open its works this Monday will have to examine a certain number of topics, mainly the Israeli aggression against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, the Saudi and Tunisian peace plans, the situation in the Gulf and in the Horn of Africa as well as issues related to Arab solidarity and peaceful settlement of inter-Arab disputes.

According to sources close to the Secretariat General of the Arab League five working papers, five memoranda and three draft resolutions will be submitted to the summit. Following is the draft agenda of the summit:

-- The Israeli aggression against Lebanon and the Palestinian people:

  -- Working paper presented by the delegation of Lebanon,
  -- Working paper presented by the delegation of the Palestine Liberation Organization,
  -- Working paper presented by the delegation of Syria,

-- The eight points presented by the delegation of Saudi Arabia:

  -- Memorandum of the Saudi delegation

-- Draft plan of President Habib Bourguiba to settle the Palestinian issue:

  -- Memorandum of the Tunisian delegation
  -- Draft resolution presented by the delegation of Tunisia
  -- The text of the Resolution of the United Nations No 181 of 29/11/1947;

-- The Gulf war and the Arab stance:

  -- Draft resolution presented by Iraq,
  -- Working paper presented by the Jordanian delegation

-- The situation in the Horn of Africa:

  -- Memorandum of the Somali delegation,
  -- Draft resolution presented by the Somali delegation,

-- Construction of the Arab League seat:

  -- Note of the Secretariat General

-- Arab solidarity and settlement of inter-Arab disputes:

  -- Working paper presented by the Jordan delegation,
  -- Working paper presented by the delegation of North Yemen,
  -- The Arab-Israeli conflict,
  -- The support to the Resistance of the Palestinian people inside the occupied territory,
  -- The Israeli project of connecting the Mediterranean Sea and the Dead Sea,
  -- The dangers threatening the Al-Aqsa Mosque,
  -- The Israeli-American strategic alliance,
  -- American nuclear reactors supplied to Israel,
  -- Security in the Arab Gulf,
  -- The decade of development,
  -- The Arab common action in the field of information on the international arena and the creation of a specialized council of Arab information ministers and of information organs of the international arena,
  -- Arabization campaign in Somalia,
  -- Arab-African cooperation,
  -- African liberation movements,
  -- The granting of observer status to the Organization of African Unity,
  -- Euro-Arab dialogue.

WAKH Report

GF061944 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1410 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] Fes, 6 Sep (WAKH) -- Arab sources in Fes said that U.S. President Reagan's proposal is implicitly accepted by the majority of Arab countries in principle, but they are cautiously waiting for the final stand which the PLO will adopt at the summit conference. In a statement to a WAKH correspondent in Fes, these sources said the summit may designate a ministerial Arab delegation to make contacts with the United States and Europe to discuss the U.S. plan and give more ideas about the issue.

The sources also said it is believed that there will be mediation between Syria and Iraq, probably by Saudi Arabia, and another mediation between Tunisia and Morocco in an attempt to normalize relations between these countries. The sources said there is an attempt to incorporate Bourguiba's proposal into the Arab plan proposed by Saudi Arabia regarding the Middle East in order to create a background for finding a way to resolve the Palestinian issue.

Regarding the Iran-Iraq war, the sources said that Algeria will issue a communique on its latest mediation efforts in light of the contacts made by Algerian Foreign Affairs Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi during his recent visit to Baghdad and Tehran and the messages that he carried to Iraqi and Iranian presidents from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid in an attempt to end the war going on between the two countries since 1980.

The sources said the summit will also discuss the future of the Palestinian Revolution and reconstruction of Lebanon. They said it is likely to form a provisional Palestinian government-in-exile headquartered in Tunisia.

PLO CENTRAL COUNCIL MEETS IN TUNIS 4 SEPTEMBER

NC051522 Paris AFP in English 1425 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Text] Tunis, Sept. 5 (AFP) -- The first meeting yesterday of the Palestine Liberation Organization leadership since the PLO's evacuation from Beirut was shrouded in secrecy and no official account of the talks was immediately available today. The PLO's Central Council, a 60-member body grouping the organization's senior leaders, met in a resort hotel in Bordj Cedria about 30 kms (18 miles) from the Tunisian capital rather than at the villa assigned PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat or the Oued Zerga camp where PLO combatants are stationed.

The meeting opened last night shortly after the arrival here from Damascus of Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO's Political Department, Kahlid al-Fahum, president of the Palestine National Council (or parliament) and representatives of the various groups within the PLO. According to Palestinian sources, PLO hardliners George Habash, head of the radical Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, Nayif Hawatimah, leader of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, and Ahmad Jibril, head of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, were absent from the meeting. The three were part of a Palestinian delegation which met yesterday in Damascus with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, who used the occasion to underline what he said was the similarity of objectives and thought between Syria and the PLO.

The Tunisian press today focused primarily on the Arab League sumit scheduled to open tomorrow in Fes, Morocco, and said little about last night's PLO Central Council meeting.

The Palestinian delegation to the Arab summit headed by Yasir 'Arafat was scheduled to leave here later today.

PLO SPOKESMAN ON PLO LEADERSHIP MEETING

LD051848 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Text] The PLO ended its meeting [word indistinct] which began [words indistinct]. Here is Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, organization spokesman, to relate what was discussed at this meeting:

[Begin recording] The Executive Committee and representatives of Palestinian organizations held a meeting under the chairmanship of Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian [word indistinct] forces, at which Khalid al-Fahum, chairman of the Palestine National Council, was present. The outcome of the heroic steadfastness battle of the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples in Lebanon and Beirut and the reflections of this heroic epic at the Arab and international levels were evaluated.

The meeting also discussed developments in the current situation and the Palestinian position at the summit conference regarding the issues submitted in the agenda [words indistinct].

The meeting discussed U.S. President Reagan's plan for peace in the Middle East, and laid down its preliminary observations regarding this plan. The Executive Committee formed a delegation to the Arab summit conference to be held in Fes tomorrow.

During this meeting the leadership reviewed a number of military issues specific to the forces of revolution, and the critical situation that has resulted from the Israeli military concentration [word indistinct] in Al-Biqa', Lebanon, and military threats made by Zionist enemy leaders. [end recording]

KUNA REPORTS PLO REJECTS REAGAN PROPOSALS

LD051634 Kuwait KUNA in English 1600 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Text] Tunis, Sept 5 (KUNA) -- The Palestine Liberation Organisation has rejected the new U.S. peace plan announced by President Reagan because it failed to call for an independent state for the Palestinian people.

A well-informed Palestinian source disclosed that the representatives of various commando organisations had unanimously rejected the plan and called for the establishment of an independent state under the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and affirmed [the] right of the Palestinian people rendered homeless by Israel in 1948 to return to their homeland. But there was no official declaration on this issue after the 12 hours meeting by the Palestinian leaders under PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat who called for the meeting following the withdrawal of Palestinian commandos from the besieged western sector of Beirut late last month.

The Palestinian source told KUNA that the Reagan plan did (?not) contain new elements for the settlement of the Palestine question and that it was within the framework of the U.S. sponsored Camp David accords which were rejected by the PLO and other Arab countries. The source, who wished not to be identified, said the PLO delegation to the Arab summit will leave here Monday to clarify to the Arab leaders the organisation's position on the Palestine question.

PLO OFFICIAL DENIES REJECTION OF U.S. PROPROSALS

LD051728 Kuwait KUNA in English 1636 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Text] Tunis, Sep 5 (KUNA) -- A senior PLO official denied here Sunday that the Palestinian organization has decided to reject the new U.S. Mideast peace solution following the rejection by Israel. The source, who wished to remain unidentified, told KUNA that no official Palestinian attitude on the American initiative was yet adopted.

The American plan calls for granting the inhabitants of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip [word indistinct] of self-association with Jordan. It further demands a halt in the establishment of further Israeli settlements in the Arab territories occupied during the 67 war.

The source added that the proposals are still being debated at the meeting currently in session, under the chairmanship of PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat. The meeting groups around 30 Palestinian leaders representing various Palestinian organisations.

The source also dismissed the possibility of announcing any official Palestinian stance on the Reagan plan before the resumption of the Fes summit conference scheduled to re-open in Morocco Monday.

Meanwhile, the PLO official spokesman Mahmud al-Labadi said that the Palestinian leadership has discussed Reagan's speech but ruled out the issuance of any declaration on the matter prior to the convening of the summit conference. Al-Labadi said that the Palestinian consultation which started late Saturday night will continue today at the Salwa Hotel, south of the capital, but he did not say when it will end.

DFLP'S HAWATIMAH ON REAGAN PLAN, ARMED STRUGGLE

GF042028 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1957 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] Manama, 4 Sep (WAKH) -- DFLP Secretary General Nayif Hawatimah has rejected the U.S. proposals for resolving the Middle East question. However, he said they are a step forward in comparison with past U.S. policy toward the region.

In an interview with a team from WAM and Abu Dhabi television that was broadcast tonight Hawatimah said: This U.S. step is the result of the heroic steadfastness of the Palestinian fighters in the face of the Zionist invasion forces in Lebanon. The U.S. President would not have remembered the Palestinian question and recognized it as the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict had it not been for the heroic resistance of the Palestinian forces throughout the 85 days of the longest Arab-Israeli war.

Hawatimah said the Palestinian Resistance rejects these proposals because they do not recognize the legitimate Palestinian rights, including the right to establish an independent Palestinian state under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Referring to President Reagan's call for a freeze in Israeli settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Hawatimah said: However, he insisted on rejecting the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and insisted on linking the occupied Arab territories and ignoring our other rights.

The Palestinian official emphasized that armed struggle is the way to bring about a wider understanding of the Palestinian question. Hawatimah said: The world that refuses to understand the rights of the Palestinian people drives this people to continue armed struggle alongside the PLO's political, social and diplomatic activity. In this regard the PLO will reorganize its forces in [words indistinct] near Palestine and Lebanon to support those who backed the PLO during its fierce fighting against the Zionist enemy.

The DFLP secretary general said the Palestinian-Israeli war has proved that the Arabs can do something against Israel and has changed theories that postulated that sophisticated weapons are the decisive factors in war.

KHALID AL-HASAN GRANTS INTERVIEW TO AL-KHALIJ

GF041920 Ash-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 4 Sep 82 p 13

[Interview with Khalid al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member, by Ahmad al-Jammal in London -- no date given]

[Excerpts] AL-KHALIJ: What is your analysis of the present stage of the Palestinian struggle, particulary as Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has described this stage as a dark tunnel?

Al-Hasan: We must clearly realize that the battle has achieved a greater degree of independence for the Palestinian will from the pressure of many Arab regimes than ever before. It is now necessary to define the ways that will ensure the maintenance and growth of this independence.

Thus, after this battle and after such a stand by the Arab regimes, no Arab regime can seek to control or interfere in Palestinian affairs on the pretext of pan-Arabism, unity of action or protecting the PLO from imperialism. Just as the old battles have brought the Palestinian Revolution to an age of maturity, the recent battle has brought it to an age of wisdom.

No Arab regime, however it views itself, has the right to direct Palestinian decisions or outbid Palestinian stands, particularly those who suggested to us to commit suicide in order to serve as an example of the heroism for whose glories they sing songs of praise. Our slogan is revolution until victory, not revolution until suicide.

All the Palestinian factions, regardless of their affiliation to this regime or that, or this ideology or that, fought together in complete harmony and unity.

AL-KHALIJ: Do you not believe that the dispersal of the Palestinian forces and cadres among several Arab countries governed by regimes of the type you describe is a threat to the PLO's strength, cohesion and capabilities?

Al-Hasan: The concentration of the Palestinian Revolution's forces in one place was never a factor in the Revolution's strength. This was because the Revolution was not on its own land, and was not on an Arab land that is ruled by a regime that reacts positively with it, and enables it to be a true springboard for the struggle. The concentration of forces in Lebanon was to confront Israeli aggression, not to demonstrate the PLO's strength on the organizational level or on the level of struggle.

A true and struggling leadership is not crushed by circumstances. It must utilize the positive factors and turn them into strong points. This has always been and will continue to be one of the responsibilities of the Palestinian leadership, until an independent Palestinian state is established.

AL-KHALIJ: With reference to the Palestinian leadership, some people are saying there will be some changes in this leadership, in light of requests from the United States or its allies in the region. How true is this?

Al-Hasan: Such statements are intended to distort the situation, or to prepare for future distortions. Changes occur in thinking, not in persons. Should there be a change in thinking or a change in planning with regard to the nature of action in the next stage, a change in individuals is not necessarily inevitable. Leaders should be able to develop with events and their requirements. A leadership that is unable to do so will automatically fall.

AL-KHALIJ: Alternatives have been put forward to the Palestinians. Some of these alternatives conflict with each other while others converge -- such as a government-in-exile, Fahd's plan, autonomy, village leagues, the alternative homeland, negotiations and recognition. What is your view?

Al-Hasan: The stand on a government-in-exile is not static. It is one of the things that is turned down or rejected only in certain circumstances. So far it has been rejected in practice. A time may come when it will be desirable. A government-in-exile usually represents a transition stage from nonsovereignty to sovereignty. Should such a stage be near, a government-in-exile will be necessary, but if this stage is not near there is no justification for a government-in-exile. So far I do not believe it is imminent because everyone is waiting for the U.S. stand, waiting to see if it will contain anything new with regard to our cause.

As for Fahd's initiative, it is a group of principles that are on the agenda of the Arab summit conference and can be amended. As has been announced in the past, if it should be approved it will be referred to the Security Council. If it is referred to the Security Council it will be referred either as a group of principles in the form they were approved by the Arab summit and then they will be drafted into a resolution, or they will be formulated by the Arab summit in the form of a resolution and then referred to the Security Council.

Autonomy is rejected in principle and should not be discussed.

The formation of village leagues is an imposition and their growth is artificial. The occupying authorities have resorted to this measure in the hope that it will change from an imposed stand to a mass stand, but they will fail to achieve this objective.

AL-KHALIJ: What more?

Al-Hasan: The alternative homeland, negotiations and peace.

AL-KHALIJ: Does he who agrees to an alternative homeland have no right to claim his homeland?

Al-Hasan: That's correct. However, Sharon insists on this matter. It has been shown historically that the Zionists plan and implement. Sharon's words point to the danger. However, his ability to implement is conditional on Jordan's or the Palestinians' acceptance, and this is totally out of the question.

As for negotiations and recognition, it is between us and the United States. Abu 'Ammar has expressed the decisions of the Palestine National Council. This does not mean that relations between us and Israel include normalization; this is called the objective of the present phase. [sentence as published]

AL-KHALIJ: I know that the stands of the regimes are clear. Is there anything new?

Al-Hasan: Saudi Arabia and Egypt played a relatively positive role. Tunisia and the Gulf countries played a lesser role -- according to their ability. Otherwise, there has been an incomprehensible and unacceptable Arab silence.

AL-KHALIJ: Saudi Arabia's positive role -- such as?

Al-Hasan: Its pressure. For instance, it used to intervene when the air raids intensified -- it reduced or stopped them.

AL-KHALIJ: In the light of such an official Arab stand, how do you view the future?

Al-Hasan: What concerns me is the reality of the Arab masses. In this regard I say there can be no liberation without the kind of thinking the mainstay of which is freedom.

AL-KHALIJ: A great deal -- positive and negative -- has been said about the Soviet Union's stand.

Al-Hasan: The misunderstanding that has taken place in assessing the Soviet stand primarily stems from the backwardness in Arab thinking which proceeds on the line that the Arabs' allies should fight on their behalf, and should draw up their strategy in accordance with our strategy. This cannot happen, particularly with the superpowers which have a world strategy of which we form a part. Hence, an alliance with the Soviet Union does not mean that we should ask it to take a stand that will lead it to a military clash with the United States -- this is a matter for the Soviet Union to judge.

We must understand the international situation well in order to judge the behavior of friends and enemies. Each of the two superpowers has vital spheres of influence in which the other does not intervene militarily. The United States did not intervene militarily in Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Afghanistan or Poland. The Soviet Union did not intervene militarily in Chile or the Middle East. Hence, the idea of wars by proxy in the Third World.

In general, the Soviet Union has done what it could within the limits of its strategy. Had there been a unified Arab stand, and had the Arabs entered the battle, the Soviet stand would have been different.

AL-KHALIJ: You said negotiations and recognition are between you and the United States. What is the relationship between this and what Husni Mubarak said about 100 percent of the cards being in the hands of the United States?

Al-Hasan: The difference is that Husni Mubarak does not link the U.S. stand with Arab pressure on the United States, while we do make such a connection. The United States holds 100 percent of the cards, and the Arabs must play their role in exerting pressure on it, so that the outcome of the U.S. holding these cards will be in the Arabs' favor.

AL-KHALIJ: What is Lebanon's future with Bashir al-Jumayyil as president, particularly where the fate of the National Movement is concerned?

Al-Hasan: This depends on Al-Jumayyil's behavior, particularly with regard to the following issues:

1. Israeli withdrawal without an treaty with Israel.

2. The issue of democracy in Lebanon.

3. Bashir's ability to free himself of the fascism that he has been raised with since his childhood, and to carry out his role as president of all the Lebanese.

If these three conditions are fulfilled, I believe the National Movement will be able to continue.

AL-KHALIJ: Do you see any dangers threatening Palestinian action in the present stage?

Al-Hasan: The only danger is the regimes' attempt to contain the PLO, and I have already said how this can be avoided. The real danger is that the Arabs could fall into a coma and fail to learn from what happened, and so what happened will become mere history.

BAHRAIN

CABINET REVIEWS U.S. MIDDLE EAST PLAN

GF052102 Doha QNA in Arabic 1930 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Text] Manama, 5 Sep (QNA) -- In its regular meeting today held under Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the Bahraini Cabinet reviewed President Reagan's plan to resolve the Middle East issue.

Following the meeting, Yusuf Ahmad ash-Shirawi, development and industry minister and acting minister of state for Cabinet affairs, stated that the Cabinet found in the plan some aspects that need consideration and clarification. He added that the plan deals in the first place with the Palestinian people and the views of the PLO are vital and important.

In a statement carried by WAKH he added that the Cabinet also reviewed the issues on the agenda of the Arab summit conference which is due to convene tomorrow in Morocco. The Cabinet expressed confidence that the resolutions due to be adopted by this historic conference will reach the standard of dealing with the changes and developments in the Arab and international arenas. It praised the efforts being made to ensure the holding of the summit and uniting the Arabs at a time the Arab nation badly needs cohesion, unity and unified stands.

KUWAIT

STATE TO FOLLOW PLO LEAD ON REAGAN PLAN

LD041554 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1530 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] Kuwait, 4 Sep (KUNA) -- Kuwait declared today that it will adopt the same attitude as the PLO toward the initiative that U.S. President Ronald Reagan made last Thursday for a peaceful settlement of the Middle East crisis.

Following the Kuwaiti Government meeting today, 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn, minister of state for cabinet affairs, said, "President Reagan's initiative will be discussed and studied with the other Arab countries, and particularly with the PLO whose views and evaluation will be the basis Kuwait will adopt."

Husayn said the Kuwaiti Cabinet, which has already reviewed the American initiative, "feels that despite the ambiguity and generalities that surround many of the points contained in the American plan and which require further clarification." [sentence as received]

He said, "After its heroic stand against the Israeli aggression and after it has proven to the whole world that the cause and legitimate rights of the Palestine people cannot be denied, the PLO is capable of choosing the road that will lead it to its pan-Arab and national objectives. Its choice will be Kuwait's choice."

SAUDI ARABIA

SA'UD AL-FAYSAL ON REAGAN PROPOSALS, FES SUMMIT

LD061020 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0945 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] Riyadh, 6 Sep (SPA) -- His Royal Highness Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister, announced that the U.S. peace proposals for the Middle East are still under thorough examination. In a statement published by 'UKAZ today, his royal highness said the attitude of the kingdom toward those and other proposals will be determined at a suitable time after consultations and coordination with the Palestinian and Arab brothers, who are all interested in the security and stability of this region.

In another statement to AN-NADWAH, His Royal Highness Sa'ud al-Faysal said the Fes summit will be a conference for raising the Palestinian voice which will be a stimulus for this important conference to come up with the positive results expected from it. He said the Arab nation understands more than ever before the total dangers to its existence. All this would not have happened had there been Arab solidarity.

His royal highness added that the Arab kings and presidents have before them an agenda full of topics aimed at preserving Arab rights and confirming the determination of the Arab nation to confront the imminent dangers with solidarity and joint action. His royal highness confirmed that the kingdom, led by His Majesty King Fahd, will work through this conference as always for the triumph of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and for a single Arab stand in the shadow of which we can face up to the imminent dangers to the Arab nation.

UAE

OFFICIAL NOTES REAGAN MIDDLE EAST PROPOSALS

LD041404 Riyadh SPA in English 1234 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Sept 4 (SPA) -- The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has received the latest U.S. Middle East proposals and is studying them, a senior UAE Foreign Ministry official said today. Yaq'ub al-Kindi, head of the ministry's political department said the U.S. charge d'affaires had delivered the full text of the proposals.

President Reagan has called among other things for Palestinian self-government in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in association with Jordan. In a major policy speech on Wednesday, he said the U.S. opposed both an independent Palestinian state in the territories occupied by Israel in 1967 and permanent control of these areas by Israel. He also called for a freeze on new Jewish settlements there.

YAR

SALIH INVITES 'ARAFAT, OTHER PLO LEADERS TO VISIT

GF041111 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] SABA' has learned that Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president and commander in chief of the armed forces, has invited Strugglers Yasir 'Arafat, alias Abu 'Ammar, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the forces of the Palestinian Revolution; Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the forces of the Palestinian Revolution; and Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, PLO Executive Committee member [title as heard], to visit the YAR.

SABA' said that the invitation is being extended at a time the YAR is preparing to receive fighters of the Palestinian Revolution, who have waged the longest war against the Zionist enemy who invaded southern Lebanon on 6 June 1982 to destroy the Palestinian Revolution. However, the Zionist enemy failed to storm the positions of the strugglers in west Beirut and sustained heavy human and materiel losses as a result of the resistance of the Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces. In this battle the Palestinian Revolution achieved military and political victories and upset the enemy's plans to liquidate the Palestinian Revolution and its leadership.

MUBARAK SAYS U.S. PLAN HAS 'POSITIVE ASPECTS'

NC051228 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Excerpt] President Husni Mubarak has said the U.S. initiative is a step on the road toward solving the Palestinian problem. He said the initiative has positive aspects, but added: We have remarks [mulahazat] on this initiative that we will announce later.

Minister of State for Information Safwat ash-Sharif said following President Mubarak's meeting with the National Democratic Party [NDP] leadership today that President Mubarak will send U.S. President Ronald Reagan a message on the initiative. He added that in speaking to the various NDP leaders, President Mubarak stressed the importance of working to build Egypt and the future and to ensure the citizens' present and future.

President Mubarak reviewed Egypt's role in the Middle East question, the Lebanese and Palestinian issues and the Egyptian moves during this stage to ensure a comprehensive solution of the Palestinian issue so the Palestinian people will have a hope in life.

Cabinet Discusses Proposal

NC041928 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] The Cabinet held an extraordinary session under Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din tonight to discuss U.S. President Reagan's initiative on the Middle East.

The session lasted for about 1 hour, after which Minister of State for Information Safwat ash-Sharif delivered a statement, saying: A thorough study has been made of the initiative President Ronald Reagan declared on 1 September. The Egyptian Cabinet, in light of the reports prepared by the appropriate bodies, while welcoming the positive aspects which form a suitable basis for giving momentum to the peace process, has at the same time observations to make on them. The Egyptian Government will continue to study the initiative and to contact the United States and the parties concerned so a comprehensive and just peace in the area can be achieved.

Official Reply Upcoming

NC062108 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2050 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] Cairo, 6 Sep (MENA) -- AL-AHRAM reports that Egypt has prepared an official written reply to U.S. President Ronald Reagan's initiative. In tomorrow's issue, AL-AHRAM says the Egyptian reply will pose questions regarding the U.S. position, particularly what was mentioned in the Camp David accords but was not mentioned in the initiative. The United States will be asked to furnish an answer to these questions, including dialogue with the PLO and resolving all aspects of the Palestinian question. The paper says this message will be delivered to President Reagan in the next few days and before this weekend.

Arab 'Parties' Consulted

NC042103 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2042 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] Cairo, 4 Sep (MENA) -- AL-AKHBAR reports that Egypt has been in contact with Arab quarters, exploring their stand regarding U.S. President Reagan's initiative on the Middle East problem. In tomorrow's edition, the paper says Egypt has formulated its political stances in coordination and consultation with Arab parties.

Envoy to Jordan Arrives

NC031729 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1707 GMT 3 Sep 82

[Text] Cairo, 3 Sep (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali met this evening with Ambassador Nabil Badr, head of the Egyptian interests mission in Jordan, who arrived in Cairo today. Ambassador Badr's visit comes within the framework of the new consultations with Foreign Ministry officials on the Middle East situation, especially in light of the new U.S. initiative and the way it is being viewed by the various sides.

AL-AHRAM Discusses Initiative

NC03[illegible]8 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2240 GMT 3 Sep 82

[From the press review]

[Text] Cairo, 3 Sep (MENA) -- In Saturday's edition, AL-AHRAM reports that Egypt's stance toward President Reagan's initiative on resolving the Palestinian issue is summed up, in light of the studies conducted by the Foreign Ministry, in the following points:

1. Egypt has asked the United States to present a full clarification on its stance toward the mistaken Israeli interpretations of some of the provisions of the Camp David accords which are related to the Palestinian issue.

2. Egypt has asked the United States, especially since the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, to introduce a political initiative aimed at redirecting the course of peace.

3. Egypt's stance was clear and decisive when it demanded a U.S. political commitment toward the Palestinian problem and the evacuation of the Palestinians from Beirut. In this regard, the paper points out that President Mubarak has sent several letters to President Reagan since the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and that he sent Kamal Hasan 'Ali to Washington twice and asked the U.S. President to move in support of the peace process.

4. Egypt has asked the United States to define its stance toward several differences in the autonomy negotiations which stem from Israel's mistaken interpretations.

5. The United States has issued its interpretations of these points and Israel has objected to them because the U.S. clarifications are specific and different from Tel Aviv's stance -- the points related to the participation of the (?Jerusalem) Palestinians in the elections, stopping the building of Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza, the freezing of already existing settlements and the attempts to impose control of the West Bank and Gaza, the inseparability of people and territory, the setting up of a real autonomous authority for a transitional period as is stated in the Camp David agreements, and the degree and the level of autonomy [that should be maintained] in a manner that would embody the aspirations of the Palestinian people and not just an administrative government. In the past, the United States used to adopt a conciliatory role in the autonomy negotiations until it recently announced its stance clearly and without resorting to compromise.

AL-AHRAM adds: Although Egypt has not yet announced its stance toward this initiative, the fact that the United States has announced this initiative does not necessarily represent everything Egypt wants or seeks to achieve for the sake of supporting the Palestinian people's rights and self-determination and the setting up of a lasting and just peace in the region. The paper says Kamal Hasan 'Ali is scheduled to meet with the FRG and French ambassadors in Cairo for this purpose on Sunday.

ISRAEL'S BUILDING OF NEW SETTLEMENTS DENOUNCED

NC061207 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] A responsible source in the Foreign Ministry has stated that the Israeli Government's recent decision to set up new settlements in the occupied Arab territories is a continuation of Israel's flagrant violation of the UN Charter and resolutions and the rules of international law and of its defiance of the world community's strong and clear rejection of the Israeli Government's steps, which exploit its occupation of Arab territories to act against the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

Egypt strongly denounces this illegal measure and the Israeli Government's persistence in announcing the establishment of more settlements in the occupied Arab territories. It also urges all the world's states, above all the United States, to condemn and stand firm against these Israeli practices that run counter to international laws and conventions.

U.S. Rejection Received

NC061212 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1202 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] Cairo, Sep 6 (MENA) -- Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali today received a U.S. memorandum spelling out its rejection of Israel's decision to build more settlements in the occupied Arab lands.

The memorandum, communicated by U.S. Ambassador Alfred Atherton, affirmed the U.S. administration's insistence to pursue the Middle East policy declared by President Reagan earlier this month. The meeting between Dr Ghali and the U.S. ambassador was held at the latter's request.

DEFENSE SECRETARY WEINBERGER ARRIVES 3 SEP

NC031934 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1830 GMT 3 Sep 82

[Text] Cairo, 3 Sep (MENA) -- U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger arrived in Cairo this evening from Tel Aviv. Weinberger was received at the airport by Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and defense and war production minister, and senior armed forces officers.

In a statement he delivered immediately upon arrival, the U.S. secretary of defense expressed his hope that President Reagan's initiative will form the basis for a lasting peace in the whole area. Weinberger added that he was extremely happy to be visiting Egypt again. He said he was looking forward to meeting with President Husni Mubarak tomorrow, Saturday, and that he was happy at meeting with his friend Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah.

Immediately after arrival, the U.S. secretary of defense and the delegation accompanying him went to the Foreign Ministry building, where he will hold talks with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and senior Foreign Ministry officials. Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah will hold talks with the U.S. secretary of defense on Sunday morning. Weinberger is scheduled to leave Cairo on Monday.

Holds Talks With 'Ali

NC032049 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2020 GMT 3 Sep 82

[Excerpt] Cairo, 3 Sep (MENA) -- Talks began at the Foreign Ministry between the Egyptian side headed by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and the U.S. side headed by U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger at 2100 this evening.

The discussions began with a meeting between Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Weinberger, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali and U.S. Ambassador Alfred Atherton. Later, the Egyptian side to the discussions, which lasted for about an hour, was joined by Ambassadors Ash-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid and Fawzi al-Abrashi. After the meeting, Kamal Hasan 'Ali told journalists: We welcome Weinberger in his second visit to Egypt. He described the visit as extremely important. He added: We discussed some questions related to the U.S. initiative, which is still being studied by the Egyptian Foreign Ministry. We will discuss it with President Husni Mubarak tomorrow. President Mubarak will also meet with Weinberger tomorrow. We hope he will enjoy his stay with us.

Meets With Mubarak

NC040840 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0827 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] Cairo, 4 Sep (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger this morning. Attending the meeting were Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, and U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Alfred Atherton.

MUBARAK DEPARTS FOR YUGOSLAVIA VISIT 6 SEP

NC060814 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak left Cairo for Belgrade this morning on a 3-day official visit to Yugoslavia. During the visit he will hold important political talks with the new Yugoslav leadership on the consolidation of the Nonaligned Movement, the situation in the Middle East and bilateral relations. President Mubarak is accompanied by a delegation consisting of Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary and Director of the Presidential Office for Political Affairs Dr Usamah al-Baz.

President Mubarak was seen off at the airport by Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-din, People's Assembly Speaker Dr Sufi Abu Talib, Consultative Council Speaker Dr Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense and War Production Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, a number of high-ranking officials and the Yugoslav and Romanian ambassadors in Cairo.

Yugoslav Coverage of Visit

For Belgrade TANJUG and Belgrade radio and newspaper reportage on President Husni Mubarak's visit to the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and his talks with President Petar Stambolic, Premier Milka Planinc and other members of the SFRY Presidency and state leadership, see the Yugoslav section of the 7 September Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

PLO OFFICIALS ATTEND MEETING AT FOREIGN MINISTRY

NC041020 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] A meeting was held in the Foreign Ministry today. It was attended by Muhammad Subayh, secretary of the Palestine National Council; Sa'id Kamal, PLO representative in Cairo; and Zuhdi al-Qudwah, member of the PLO Executive Committee. Also attending the meeting were officials in charge of Palestinian affairs in the Foreign Ministry. During the meeting, the conferees discussed the situation in light of U.S. President Reagan's initiative and exchanged views on this initiative.

RAMADAN ON POPULAR ARMY, KHARK ISLAND RAIDS

JN040952 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0910 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 4 Sep (INA) -- Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, has stated that the number of Popular Army fighters will reach half a million at the end of the year.

In a statement to INA on the occasion of the second anniversary of the war, Taha Yasin Ramadan said that we are working to make available all that the war needs as if this war were a permanent one. He added: We are also working for peace, and Iraq has dealt positively with all the opportunities that could achieve peace.

Taha Yasin Ramadan said that the raids by the Iraqi Air Force on Khark Island are normal measures because Iraq is in a state of war with Iran. He hoped that further action would be taken as long as Iran continues to be intransigent and to covet Iraqi territory.

Taha Yasin Ramadan warned the parties that continue to deal with Khark Island. He said: They will have only themselves to blame because Iraq informed the world at large not to become involved. He said that no country or international organization can, in the wake of Iraq's public warnings, view this warning as being in contradiction with international norms and laws. He wondered: What did the world do when Iran struck Iraqi ports?

RAMADAN, DELEGATION DEPART FOR ARAB SUMMIT

JN051535 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1500 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and first deputy prime minister, left Baghdad this afternoon to lead Iraq's delegation to the Arab summit conference, opening in Fes tomorrow.

The delegation comprises Na'im Haddad, RCC member and National Assembly speaker; Tariq 'Aziz, RCC member and deputy prime minister; Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, minister of foreign affairs; 'Abd al-Malik al-Yasin, Foreign Ministry under secretary; the Iraqi ambassador to Morocco; and several Foreign Ministry officials.

AL-JUMHURIYAH ON 'TACIT WELCOME' OF U.S. PLAN

JN051508 Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 3 Sep 82 pp 1, 11

[Excerpts] Reactions to the U.S. President's plan to settle the Arab-Zionist conflict -- a plan named "For a More Comprehensive Peace" -- have ranged between rejection, condemnation, complete welcome or refrain from making any comment pending "a thorough study" or "consultations." However, all these reactions included a tacit welcome of the plan.

The Stages of the Plan

Reagan's plan contained several basic stages the most important of which are the following

1. The immediate freezing of the establishment of new "Israeli" settlements in the West Bank and Gaza.

2. The holding of free elections to establish an independent Palestinian autonomy in the occupied territories.

3. The peaceful and orderly transfer of the "Israeli" Government's internal authority to the Palestinian inhabitants in the West Bank and Gaza within a period of 5 years. The full autonomy in linkage with Jordan should be the final status of these territories.

4. The holding of negotiations on Jerusalem, which should remain undivided.

There have been varied reactions to the proposals submitted by U.S. President Ronald Reagan in his plan.

The Zionist Government Rejects

At an emergency meeting yesterday, the Zionist enemy government rejected the U.S. President's proposals and described them as having "violated the Camp David accords." David Levi, Zionist housing minister and Menahem Begin's deputy, stressed that his entity will continue to establish more Zionist settlements in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. He condemned Reagan's call for freezing the establishment of settlements.

The Zionist "Opposition" Welcomes

Shim'on Peres, leader of the Zionist opposition Labor Party, described the U.S. proposals as close to his party's views to a certain extent. Answering questions posed by journalists yesterday, Peres said: These U.S. statements constitute a significant change because they indicate Jordan's consent to take part in the peace process.

Peres, whose party has been accused by Zionist government's circles of inspiring Reagan's statements, added: During my talks in Washington I reiterated that the Labor Party objects to the establishment of a Palestinian state and to the holding of any negotiations with the PLO.

The PLO Discusses the Plan at an Emergency Meeting

The PLO has called for an emergency meeting of the PLO Executive Committee during the next 48 hours in order to discuss the U.S. proposals. Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, has expressed his belief that the U.S. proposals contain new elements, particularly those on freezing the Zionist settlements in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and on refraining from imposing "Israeli" sovereignty over the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Jordan: Positive Elements Worthy of Study

An official spokesman for the Jordanian Foreign Ministry announced in Amman last night that the competent quarters in Jordan are currently studying President Reagan's speech. The spokesman added that Jordan will hold consultations on the subject with the PLO and Arab governments, proceeding from Jordan's commitment to the 1974 Rabat summit resolution.

The Jordanian spokesman pointed out that President Reagan's speech contains a number of positive elements worthy of study and consultations with other Arab sides. He added that the U.S. President's speech also emphasizes the principle of the inadmissibility of the occupation of territory by force and stresses the need for "Israel's" withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories.

Saudi Arabia To Express Its Opinion After Study

In Jidda, SPA cited Saudi Information Minister Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani as saying that Saudi Arabia has actually received the U.S. proposals as stated by President Reagan with regard to the Palestinian cause. SPA said that the U.S. proposals are now under study and that Saudi Arabia will voice its opinion after the study.

TASS: The Plan Supports the Results of Aggression

In Moscow, TASS has tacitly rejected the U.S. plan and stressed in a brief report that, "It brings nothing new." TASS added: Reagan's initiative is aimed at backing the results of the Israeli aggression against Lebanon and at increasing the United States' influence in the region.

Bonn: Complete Satisfaction

FRG political circles in Bonn expressed satisfaction with the U.S. proposals and called for discussing them among the European economic group as soon as possible.

Juergen Moellemann, parliament member for the Free Democratic Party and chairman of the Arab-German Friendship Society, described these proposals as "encouraging." The opposition Christian Democratic Union has described them as "constructive" and "balanced." This union's spokesman Alois Mertes said that these proposals "have taken into consideration all viewpoints regarding a just and lasting peace in the Middle East."

Paris: No Comment Before Study

Thus far there has been no official comment in Paris on the U.S. proposals. However, sources at the French External Relations Ministry said that they are being thoroughly discussed and analyzed before any comment on them is made.

SPOKESMAN DISMISSES REPORT OF IRAQ-IRAN ACCORD

JN061117 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1100 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] London, 6 Sep (INA) — The official spokesman for the Iraqi Embassy in London has dismissed the rumors which were reported by the British media on an agreement between Iraq and Iran under which neither will strike at the oil installations of the other.

The official spokesman has told newsmen that Iraq will continue its siege of Khark Island and will sink every ship that enters the zone irrespective of its nationality. Iraq, the spokesman went on to say, will consider this the primary task of the Iraqi air and naval forces. Iraq has no intention of ending this course until the struggle between the two countries is definitely ended, he concluded.

KING HUSAYN LEAVES FOR ARAB SUMMIT 5 SEP

JN051020 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn and his accompanying delegation left for Morocco this morning to participate in the Arab summit conference that will begin in Fes tomorrow.

His majesty was seen off at the airport by His Highness Prince Muhammad, His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, seceral members of the Hashemite family, the president of the Senate, the speaker of the National Consultative Council, ministers and the Moroccan charge d'affaires in Amman.

His Highness Crown Prince Hasan was sworn in as regent during his majesty's stay abroad.

His Majesty King Husayn is accompanied by Prime Minister Mudar Badran; Ahmad al-Lawzi, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court; Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim; Hasan Ibrahim, minister of occupied territories; and the chief of staff.

AL-QASIM BRIEFS USSR AMBASSADOR ON JORDAN'S STAND

JN041636 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim received today roving USSR Ambassador Sytenko and discussed with him current international issues. Al-Qasim briefed the ambassador on Jordan's stands on the recent developments in the Arab arena, particularly the Israeli aggression against Lebanon and the Palestinian people.

The discussion also touched on the important issues pertaining to the continuity of the situation in the region. Al-Qasim affirmed the clear Jordanian stand on the Iranian aggression against Iraq, its call to the friendly countries to end the war and to enable Iraq to participate in confronting the dangers threatening the Arab nation and particularly in effectively confronting Israeli aggression and expansion.

PAPERS COMMENT ON REAGAN'S MIDDLE EAST PLAN

JN030954 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 3 Sep 82

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "A Quick Glance at Reagan's Initiative," AD-DUSTUR says: Even though there are different views on and reactions to the ideas presented by President Reagan in his speech to the American nation yesterday, in which he defined his country's concept of a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict, these thoughts constitute, in their entirety, the first clear U.S. policy in years for tackling the region's crisis, which the United States has ignored for a long time.

Naturally, the U.S. plan will be the subject of a careful study by various Arab countries and quarters before a final judgment is made, especially since we are on the threshold of the summit, which is expected to study all aspects of the Palestine question.

A quick glance at the U.S. plan reveals several positive aspects in U.S. thinking which deserve to be put on record. The U.S. President concedes that the withdrawal of the PLO from Beirut has not killed the Palestinians' legitimate aspirations for a homeland, not on the basis that they are refugees, but on the basis that they are a people with a clear right to a homeland. The U.S. President emphasized that UN Resolution 242 remains the basis for any political moves to solve the region's crisis. This resolution provides for Israeli withdrawal from all fronts, including the West Bank and Gaza. Thus, by his stand, Reagan opposes the Israeli theory that claims the occupied territories are Israel's land. The U.S. President also stresses that his country understands autonomy to mean giving the Palestinians complete freedom to run their own affairs during a 5-year transitional period after which the fate of these areas will be determined on the basis of their link with Jordan.

True, Reagan announced that his country does not support the establishment of an independent Palestinian state, but he left the Palestinians with several options to choose from on how they want to organize their relations with Jordan. By this stand, he has rejected the Israeli theory that autonomy is for the people and not for the land.

The U.S. President called on Israel to stop its feverish activity of building new settlements and to desist from fleshing out the existing ones. He said the settlements create an atmosphere which does not support confidence and peace. Thus, he is opposing the Likud Party's philosophy about Israel's right to settle in all Israeli-occupied land.

AD-DUSTUR adds: These are the positive elements in Reagan's speech. They constitute, at least, a U.S. move in the right direction. President Reagan has a tough battle to wage with Begin, who has quickly rejected the U.S. proposals and any negotiations on their basis with any side. The main question now posed is: How can the United States enforce its plan on Israel if it is accepted in its general framework by certain Arab sides? The evil force in the Middle East created by U.S. administrations, including Reagan's administration, is capable of defying Washington to the end. To what extent can the U.S. President force Menahem Begin to obey the U.S. wish and exchange land for peace?

AD-DUSTUR concludes: The U.S. President used a new language yesterday that can open new roads for a just peace. However, this does not rule out the fact that there are also negative points in his plan and that these points call for a dialogue with him and for certain explanations and clarifications. If Jordan has noted only the positive points in the U.S. plan, it is because it does not want to discuss the details and the Rabat decision calls for coordination with fraternal Arab countries and the PLO. As King Husayn has often said, the Palestine question is a pan-Arab commitment and all Arabs must share its burdens and responsibilities with the Palestinian people. Since the Arab summit will convene soon, it is the right forum for discussing the plan and giving the Arab response to it.

Under the headline "An Initial Glance at the U.S. Initiative," AR-RA'Y says: There is no doubt the U.S. initiative to resolve the Palestine question deserves our interest and careful study, especially since it contains the following positive points:

First, nonacceptance of the annexation of territories by force. Second, the admission that the Palestine question is not one of refugees, but of a homeland. Third, the call for the exchange of land for peace. This means the rejection of the Israeli principle which is based on the usurpation of land and the achievement of peace at the same time. Fourth, the rejection of the Israeli security theory which is based on the idea that the occupation of territory achieves security for Israel. Fifth, the rejection of the Israeli settlement policy which is the backbone of its expansionist policy. Sixth, nonacceptance of the Isreali claim that a unified Jerusalem will be its capital for the next 1,000 years. The call for negotiations on the future of both parts of the city means nonacceptance of this claim.

AR-RA'Y adds: These positive points constitute a new U.S. trend toward a balanced policy in the region. But this does not mean the U.S. initiative meets all Arab demands. If Israel has received the initiative with outright rejection, the initial Arab reaction has been characterized by rationalism and realism. There is no doubt the PLO, which will discuss the plan soon, is now facing a historic political test, and aware of its dimensions and results. The main duty of the coming Arab summit in Fes is to adopt a unified Arab stand on the U.S. initiative based on farsightedness and correct assessment.

FOREIGN MINISTER BUTRUS VIEWS REAGAN PEACE PLAN

NC041316 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus officially commented on President Reagan's Middle East peace plan today. He considered the plan a clear indication that the U.S. administration is determined to adopt a specific policy [siyasah mu'ayyanah] toward the crisis while noting that some points in the plan are ambiguous. Butrus called on the Arab states to carefully study this initiative and adopt a specific stand toward it.

On how the plan concerns Lebanon, Minister Butrus said: The U.S. President's statement partly dealt with Lebanon in a direct way, when he affirmed that the United States is determined to help the state to restore its sovereignty and control over all Lebanese territory and to bring about the withdrawal of non-Lebanese forces from Lebanon. This stand constitutes an act of faith in Lebanon and in its independence and unity. On the other hand, Lebanon has an interest in this plan which aims at finding a solution for the Middle East crisis, which has caused Lebanon to suffer a lot and which has been the main cause of the Lebanese crisis. Foreign Minister Butrus added: Lebanon must strive for anything that could lead to a just and acceptable solution of the Middle East crisis. Lebanon must consult with the Arab brothers on this subject.

On the kind of negotiations that will take place within the framework of the U.S. plan, Minister Butrus said: President Reagan's statement speaks about the Camp David process. This plan is within the framework of that process. It can be deduced that the Americans believe that they can proceed with the plan without the Soviet Union's participation. At this stage at least, they have ruled out an international meeting in which the Soviet Union will have a role. I believe that the Soviet Union must participate in this process to increase its chances of success.

Reaction to Plan Followed Up

NC061232 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Excerpt] Diplomatic activity at the Foreign Ministry today focused on following up the Arab and international reactions to the U.S. Middle East peace proposals announced by President Reagan as well as the preparations being made to convene the Arab summit conference in Fes this evening. Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus stayed in his office today and received many diplomatic cables from several Lebanese Embassies abroad containing comments and official stands on the U.S. Middle East initiative.

NATIONAL MOVEMENT'S JUNBLATT WELCOMES U.S. PLAN

JN041525 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1500 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] Walid Junblatt, president of the Lebanese National Movement, has stated that President Ronald Reagan's initiative constitutes a suitable framework for realizing a just solution to the Palestinian problem. Junblatt urged the United States to defend what remained of human rights and democratic freedoms in Lebanon before the one-party system dominates the country.

FORMER PREMIERS WELCOME REAGAN PEACE INITIATIVE

NC031854 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 3 Sep 82

[Excerpts] [Former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam urged Arab officials to take their time before they adopt a stand on U.S. President Reagan's initiative and not to take a stand before they have a chance to study it and learn its background and its seriousness and the U.S. insistence on it.

He said that, according to the statements and comments he heard today on this initiative, it is possible to say frankly that there are some positive aspects in this new policy. There is also a seemingly clear determination, which should not be ignored, to pursue this policy.

Salam registered several remarks on this initiative, saying: The policy of the successive U.S. administrations on everything pertaining to Israel has taught us not to believe that the United States will implement the positions which it occasionally takes. It should be noted that Lebanon, and Beirut in particular, paid a very high price to change U.S. Middle East policy -- if there really is a change. Therefore, we must not follow past methods and face the initiative with spontaneous negativeness and with the famous no's, particularly since Israel not only has rejected it but has also taken an almost hostile position toward it and the United States.

[Former] Prime Minister Rashid as-Sulh also expressed his opinion on the initiative, considering it a turning point in U.S. policy toward the Palestinian issue. As-Sulh linked this change to the steadfastness of the Lebanese and Palestinians in the south and Beirut and the PLO's cooperation with the United States through Philip Habib. As-Sulh called on Arab officials to be positive in their consideration of this initiative.

BUTRUS SCORES ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS' STAND

NC051843 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Text] Foreign and Expatriates Affairs Minister Fu'ad Butrus has stated that Lebanon clings to the working paper it submitted to the Arab summit conference which will convene in Fes tomorrow. Butrus added: If the conference is to carry out its duty, it should discuss the Lebanese paper seriously.

The foreign minister declared this in an interview he granted to the weekly MONDAY MORNING, which will appear in Beirut tomorrow. Answering a question on the sharp differences which emerged during the Arab foreign ministers conference regarding the Lebanese working paper, Minister Butrus said: I regret to say that the foreign ministers conference has again disregarded the Lebanese working paper. It is helpless vis-a-vis Lebanon's demands. He added: It is as if there are obstacles preventing the discussion of the Lebanese demands concerning the Lebanese crisis. The conference always seeks to link the Lebanese crisis with the Middle East crisis. Lebanon rejects this because, despite the connection between the two issues, the Lebanese crisis stands on its own and its solutions are different from the solutions to the Middle East crisis.

Butrus continued: The foreign ministers conference has not given the Lebanese issue the attention it deserves. We blame the foreign ministers for their recent stand. We hope that the summit conference will fix what the foreign ministers conference has done and will fill the vacuum which the ministers conference created by not discussing the Lebanese working paper. On this occasion, I would like to draw attention to a very important matter -- except for the Palestinian question, which concerns all the Arab states and for which many working papers are submitted when it is discussed at the Arab League -- it has never been customary, when discussing an issue concerning a country, for other states to submit a working paper dealing with this country's issue. The concerned country submits the working paper. If other states have observations, then let them express this by introducing amendments to the Lebanese working paper. We are surprised that some states have submitted independent working papers dealing with the Lebanese issue. It is natural that those involved with an issue should better know what is happening.

Butrus expressed his hope that the forthcoming Arab summit will overcome the difficulties confronting it and that it will succeed in its work. He also expressed his fear that if this summit fails, this will have a long-term negative effect on Arab relations, Arab solidarity and the unity of the Arab ranks. Asked if he expected the possible failure to have an effect on Lebanon, Minister Butrus said: The situation in Lebanon is to a certain extent a reflection of the Arab disputes and negativism. I do not believe that failure by the conference to achieve a result, God forbid, can lead to a deterioration of the situation in Lebanon since Lebanon has paid its share as a result of the Arab disputes and negativism.

In his interview with MONDAY MORNING, Minister Butrus added: It is necessary to follow up the tackling of the Lebanese question with a national accord inside Lebanon and through securing the departure of all foreign military forces from Lebanon. He further said: This matter is indisputable, in my opinion. All the Lebanese, or their overwhelming majority, agree on this. Understanding among the Lebanese is a must to realize these aims and to enable the state to fill the vacuum, maintain security in Lebanon and assure the Lebanese about their future.

Minister Leaves for Fes

NC041148 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] Minister [of Posts and Telecommunications] Michel al-Murr, accompanied by Lebanese Army Intelligence Service Director Johnny 'Abduh, has left Beirut for some European and Arab capitals on a mission described as important. Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies Kamil al-As'ad left on the same helicipter [as received] on his way to Geneva and Minister [of State for Municipal Development Affairs] Joseph Abu Khatir left for the Fes summit.

AL-JUMAYYIL 'CATEGORICALLY DENIES' MEETING WITH BEGIN

NC031125 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 3 Sep 82

[Text] The office of President-elect Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil has categorically denied a report put out by Israeli radio that he met with the Israeli prime minister. The office affirmed that this report is untrue.

AL-WAZZAN, AL-JUMAYYIL REVIEW 'URGENT QUESTIONS'

NC070824 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0811 GMT 7 Sep 82

[Text] This morning, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan contacted by telephone President-elect Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil. After repeating his congratulations, Al-Wazzan reviewed with Al-Jumayyil general affairs, including urgent questions.

AL-JUMAYYIL MEETS WITH DRUZE DELEGATION

NC051415 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Text] President-elect Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil today continued his contacts and meetings with official and leading personalities in Bekfayya. He met with a Druze delegation and reviewed with it certain matters that concern the mountain area.

Speeches were exchanged during the meeting. President-elect al-Jumayyil said: I thank the sincere man who today blessed the reunification and the re-Lebanization of the mountain by restoring the unity of the original Lebanese. I thank Amir Majid Arslan, who blessed and supported this gathering. He is present with his spirit among us in this Lebanese gathering, which represents genuine Lebanese values, heritage and traditions.

President-elect al-Jumayyil said: This is a bright day in the history of new Lebanon -- the day the mountain is reunified. We are the real mountain. We are the right mountain. We are the historical mountain. A cloud has been overshadowing reality for 8 years.

This cloud has for 8 years prevented us from coming together while the foreigners tried to distort the true Lebanese will. He said: This cloud has begun to vanish and the mountain has begun to unite as a first step toward the reunification of all Lebanon, especially the reunification of the genuine Lebanese will that no one could destroy even though they could, at one time, hamper it. I hope today we will embark on a new page as the sons of the mountain who have common traditions and customs. He added: The foreigners have created many problems on the mountain. We must leave these problems behind us and make them a thing of the past so we may surge toward the future with new aspirations, hopes, dreams and ambitions.

President-elect al-Jumayyil emphasized the need for preserving Lebanon, because the road is still long for us to be able to achieve our hopes and aspirations. He said: In my capacity as president of the Republic of Lebanon, I must preserve the mountain, because this is the time when we should preserve values and morality, and by so doing we preserve Lebanon.

Amir Faysal Arslan also delivered a speech, in which he said: Your Excellency the President: You were an adversary and now you have been elected ruler. The Druze came today to bless this election and to tell you: We shall be the sword, so be just; we shall be a support, so be the unification; we shall be the cornerstone, so build on it what has been destroyed of the hopes and aspirations to restore security, sovereignty and prosperity to the country. Let this, our day in Bikfayya, be a prelude to the day of all the Lebanese, whose solidarity we need to achieve our aspirations. May Lebanon remain a beacon between east and west with the help of our sincere Arab brothers. May you and Lebanon live long.

NORTHERN GROUP REJECTS AL-JUMAYYIL GOVERNMENT

NC051206 Paris AFP in English 1148 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Text] Beirut, Sept 5 (AFP) -- A group calling itself the Assembly of Political Forces of Northern Lebanon has called for non-recognition and a boycott of the "new regime" of Lebanon's President-elect Bashir al-Jumayyil.

Following a meeting presided over by former Lebanese minister and member of Parliament from Tripoli Rashid Karami, the assembly issued a statement that "the new regime is an offshoot of the Israeli occupation of Lebanon." The assembly called on Lebanese to oppose the "fascist, partisan and sectarian" nature of the new regime, and asked patriotic and Islamic forces to resist the hegemonist attempts of the regime (of Mr al-Jumayyil)", who was elected president last month and is due to take office September 23.

The assembly also called for "a fight using all political, diplomatic and military means to liberate Lebanon from the Israeli occupation" and warned against a "normalization of relations between Lebanon and the Jewish state, and the signing of a peace treaty with Israel."

The statement said it was "necessary to preserve the unity and Arab nature of Lebanon and reject attempts by the enemy (Israel) to divide and partition the country." The main leaders of the opposition movement -- formed by Moslem and leftist Lebanese leaders -- were due to meet here Monday to adopt a platform.

AL-WAZZAN ON ARMY, SECURITY FORCES DEPLOYMENT

NC061834 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] This afternoon, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan dealt with certain issues pertaining to the security plan for Beirut and its southern suburb, particularly the deployment of the internal security forces and the Lebanese Army to the places designated in the plan.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: The departure of the local forces from their positions, particularly in the southern suburb, requires the stationing of legitimate security and army forces in their places. This is being tackled now preparatory to the resumption of the deployment of the legitimate Lebanese forces and their stationing at the allotted places to consolidate security and stability.

Satisfied With Arrangements

NC041728 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] At 1200 today, President Ilyas Sarkis held a meeting with Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and exchanged views on the current political and security situations and assessed the stages of the security plan that is currently being implemented in Beirut and the southern suburb. However, Prime Minister al-Wazzan left the place after 30 minutes, apologizing for not being able to continue the meeting since he did not feel well.

Emerging from the palace, he said: There was a small matter which I wanted to consult President Sarkis about. There was nothing special. We are following up all these matters, hoping they will be completed successfully.

He was asked: Are the arrangements proceeding well? He replied: Thank God and God willing.

He was asked: Are the arrangements being implemented in full? He replied: Perhaps. There is nothing complete and absolute in the world. But what is happening is satisfactory to us and to the public interest.

He was asked: Have you made any changes in the working paper which Minister Abu Khatir took with him today to Fes? He replied: No. It is still the same. Minister Abu Khatir left today, and what he is carrying is clear and does not need to be changed.

ISRAEL THREATENS TO CROSS AL-JINAH CONTACT LINES

NC061634 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] The Israeli forces have threathened to cross the contact lines in the Al-Jinah area if the armed persons do not withdraw from these areas. Israel said that, according to the agreement, the Lebanese Armed Forces should be deployed in the areas where the armed persons are present.

The Israeli request has been transmitted to the Lebanese authority through the U.S. Embassy.

ISRAELI FORCES ENTER PDRY EMBASSY 6 SEP

NC061016 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan met today with 'Abdallah as-Salim, PDRY Embassy charge d'affaires minister plenipotentiary, who informed him that some Israeli soldiers have entered the embassy building in Al-Jinah locality.

The prime minister held urgent contacts with the quarters concerned, strongly protesting the Israeli behavior. He said that at a time when the Israelis are withdrawing from the vicinity of Henry Shihab barracks, they are entering embassy buildings which have diplomatic immunity. He demanded the Israeli forces withdraw immediately from the PDRY Embassy building.

ENVOYS PRESENT PLAN ON WITHDRAWAL TO SARKIS

NC062140 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] The U.S., Italian and French ambassadors have presented to President Sarkis a coordinated draft plan for the withdrawal of their respective forces, starting on 10 September and ending on the 16th -- 5 days before the end of the period specified in the plan.

CUBAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DELEGATION DEPARTS 3 SEP

JN031141 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0955 GMT 3 Sep 82

[Text] Damascus, 3 Sep (SANA) -- The Cuban parliamentary delegation headed by Flavio Bravo Pardo, president of the Cuban National Assembly of the People's Government, left Damascus at 1000 following a 1-week official visit to Syria at the invitation of Mahmud az-Zu'bi, People's Assembly speaker.

Seeing him off at Damascus International Airport were Mahmud az-Zu'bi, speaker of the People's Assembly; members of the Assembly's office; Dr Muhsin Bilal, head of the Arab and External Relations Committee; several Assembly members and the Cuban ambassador in Damascus.

In a statement to SANA, Flavio Bravo Pardo expressed his happiness at visiting Syria and having had the opportunity to meet with President Hafiz al-Asad and high ranking party and state officials. He also expressed satisfaction with the continued talks on parliamentary relations between the two friendly countries and the friendship that links the two peoples, who are struggling in one trench against the U.S. imperialist conspiracy and savage Zionist aggression.

The Cuban National Assembly president expressed his admiration of and appreciation for the courage of the Syrian people and the Syrian Armed Forces in confronting the Zionist invasion of Lebanon. He also expressed his appreciation for the brave steadfast stand of Syria under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad in the face of the imperialist U.S. and Zionist plans. He stressed the definite victory of the Syrian people in their just struggle against Zionist aggression and his firm and unshakable belief in the victory of the Palestinian people and the restoration of their complete legitimate rights.

People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi asked Bravo to convey his greetings and those of the members of the Syrian People's Assembly to the members of the Cuban National Assembly.

Joint Statement Issued 4 Sep

JN041437 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] A joint statement was issued in Damascus today on the talks held between the Cuban National Assembly and Syrian People's Assembly delegations.

The Cuban side affirmed the firm and ceaseless support and backing of the Cuban people and leadership for Syria's struggle and steadfastness, adding that Syria is playing the primary and significant role, led by President Hafiz al-Asad, in the Arabs' struggle against the schemes and plans of Zionism and U.S. imperialism, which are hostile to the Arab national liberation movement. The Cuban delegation praised the heroism and steadfastness of the Syrian Armed Forces in confronting the Zionist invasion of Lebanon. The delegation lauded the heroism and gallantry demonstrated by the Palestinian fighters and the Lebanese National Movement in confronting this invasion.

The Syrian People's Assembly delegation expressed its high appreciation for the role being played by the Cuban people and government, under comrade struggler Fidel Castro, in supporting Syria and the Arabs' just struggle, and Cuba's noble stands on the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and on the Palestinian issue. The Syrian delegation reiterated its denunciation and condemnation of the aggressive U.S. policy against the Caribbean region, particularly its acts of aggression against Cuba and Nicaragua and its interference in the domestic affairs of Latin American states.

The two delegations strongly denounced the treacherous aggression launched by Israel against Lebanon and Israel's bestial acts -- mass killing, physical liquidation of thousands of Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, ruination of villages and towns and displacement of thousands of citizens -- aimed at achieving its objectives and attempts to subjugate Lebanon. The two delegations also condemned U.S. participation in this aggression and in financing, protecting and supplying Israel with the most sophisticated weapons, including those prohibited under international treaties.

The two sides expressed the conviction that this aggression is the fruit of the treasonous Camp David accords and the aggressive strategic agreement between the United States and Israel. They affirmed that the crimes committed by Israel with the help of the United States are crimes against mankind and those responsible should be treated as war criminals. The two sides asserted that Cuba and Syria will carry out joint efforts to force the aggressors to implement the UN resolutions which call for the immediate, unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon and prevent the aggressors from achieving their objectives.

The two sides declared that the core of the region's conflict is the Palestinian issue and that pressure must be exerted to force Israel to withdraw from all occupied Arab territories and to champion the inalienable and national rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination and to set up their own independent state on their soil under the PLO, their sole and legitimate representative.

At the end of his visit to Syria, Flavio Bravo Pardo, head of the Cuban delegation, held a press conference at which he expressed Cuba's strong support for Syria, the Palestinian Resistance and the Lebanese National Movement for the Arab masses' struggle against the imperialist and Zionist schemes in the region. The Cuban and Syrian delegations expressed satisfaction with the development in relations between their two legislative assemblies. They asserted their eagerness to promote these relations. They agreed to exchange visits and views regarding issues that concern the two friendly countries.

AL-ASAD DISCUSSES ARAB AFFAIRS WITH PLO LEADERS

JN041722 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] At 1030 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received a delegation from the Palestinian leaderships led by Khalid al-Fahum, chairman of the Palestine National Council. The delegation included among others Salah Khalaf, Faruq Qaddumi, 'Isam al-Qadi, George Habash, Nayif Hawatimah, Ahmad Jibril, Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, Nimr Salih, Khalil al-Wazir, Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid, Abu al-'Abbas, Abu al-Walid, Tal'at Ya'qub, Abu Mahir al-Yamani, Samir Ghawshah, Hatim Ka'wash, Fadl Shruru and Sami Qandil. The meeting was attended by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Arab developments and various aspects of the Arab situation following the Israeli invasion of Lebanon were discussed during the meeting and the delegation members stressed the importance of the existing solidarity between Syria and the Palestinian Revolution and the need to continue and deepen this solidarity, because it is necessary for the Palestinian cause. They also stressed the need to respond to Syria's principled trends [tawajjuhat].

President Hafiz al-Asad welcomed the Palestinian leadership in Damascus and asserted that Syria will continue to defend the Palestinian cause and to sacrifice for its sake as it did in the past and as it sacrificed during its confrontation of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES IRAN'S 'AZIZI FOR TALKS

JN041939 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Ahmad 'Azizi, Iranian deputy foreign minister, and his delegation at 1730 tonight. The meeting was attended by Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, Iranian ambassador in Damascus, and Nasir Qaddur, Syria's assistant foreign minister.

'Azizi conveyed to the president greetings from the leadership in the Iranian Islamic revolution. Talks dealt with the situation precipitated in the region by the Zionist invasion of Lebanon. The president said the current onslaught against the region is an imperialist-Zionist one with the aim of striking at the liberation movement in the area. Our enemies chose Lebanon to begin their offensive. The president asserted that Syria would remain firm ground for the fighters and its stand would remain principled and unchanged in facing the imperialist and Zionist plots in the region.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the president asked 'Azizi to convey his greetings to Imam Ayatollah Khomeyni, President 'Ali Khamene'i and the Iranian leadership.

TISHRIN LAUNCHES SHARP ATTACK ON REAGAN PLAN

JN041801 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1705 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Telephone dispatch by Radio Monte Carlo Damascus correspondent Louis Faris -- recorded]

[Text] The first official Syrian reaction to President Reagan's plan appeared today in the editorial of the progovernment newspaper TISHRIN. The reaction has thus far been the most violent by an Arab state. TISHRIN describes the plan as "Camp Reagan," an allusion to the Camp David accord that has been and is still being rejected by Syria. The paper says the U.S. administration has once again proved that there is no U.S. policy in the region, but rather an Israeli policy implemented by the United States.

TISHRIN says: Taking the most optimistic view of the plan, we find it identical to the Zionist plan, an advance copy of Camp David, more Zionist than Camp David and more humiliating to the Arabs. The plan, according to the newspaper, sees only the Zionist side of the issue and completely ignores the Arab side, a matter commensurate with Israeli security and Israel's understanding of this security.

The paper adds that Reagan's plan would lead to inter-Arab wars and Israeli attacks against Syria to exhaust it as a price for peddling it. It says the most serious objective of Reagan's project is to revive the Jordanian option, which is one of the interpretations of Alon's plan.

On the Arab summit, in which Syria will participate through President Hafiz al-Asad, TISHRIN says the summit must face the issue with firmness and principled stands, in order to reject the U.S. map of the region and to map out a clear-cut strategy that would define the means and formulas of confrontations as well as every side's commitments toward this confrontation and the way these commitments should be implemented without maneuvers.

This project was discussed and rejected today during the first important meeting between the Syrian and Palestinian leaderships since the Palestinian leaders arrived in Damascus. President al-Asad welcomed the Palestinian leaders in Damascus, asserting that Syria will continue to defend the Palestinian issue and will continue to offer sacrifices as it did in the past during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

BEGIN SENDS LETTER TO U.S. PRESIDENT REAGAN

TA060803 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 6 Sep 82 p 5

["Text" of letter sent by Prime Minister Menahem Begin to U.S. President Ronald Reagan--dated 5 Sep 82]

[Text] Dear Ron,

I thank you for your letter of August 31, 1982, which Ambassador Lewis was kind enough, upon instruction from his government, to bring to me to Nahariyya, now free of rockets and shells.

I enclose, herewith, the resolution of the Cabinet, September 2, 1982 (issued by the G.P.O. on that date) adopted unanimously. As each of the paragraphs is elaborated I have little to add except to state -- taking, if I may, a leaf from your book -- that the Government of Israel will stand by its decision with total dedication.

I have also read your speech which preceded by 24 hours the Cabinet consultation with my colleagues. It serves as an additional testimony to your opinion, or resolve.

Indeed, my friend, great events did not take place since we last met in Washington in June. May I however, give you a somewhat different description of those events. On June 6, 1982, the Israel Defence Forces entered Lebanon in order not to conquer territory, but to fight and smash the armed bands operating from that country against our land and its citizens. This, the I.D.F. did. You will recall that we could not regrettably accept your suggestion that we proclaim a cease-fire on Thursday June 10 at 0600 hours because at that time the enemy was still 18 kilometres from Metulla on our northern border. However, 24 hours later, we pushed the enemy further northwards, and on Friday, June 11 at 12 noon, we proclaimed a unilateral cease-fire, rejected by the terrorists. So the fighting continued, and on June 27, we suggested that all the terrorists leave Beirut and Lebanon -- which they eventually did, with the help of the important good offices of Ambassador Habib, many weeks later. In the intervening battles, Israel lost 340 men killed and 2,200 wounded, 100 of them severely. Also in the battles -- following the rejection of our appeals by the Syrian Army not to interfere -- we destroyed 405 Soviet-Syrian tanks, (among them nine T-72's, considered in NATO circles to be "invulnerable"); we downed 102 Soviet-Syrian MiG's (including one MiG-25) and smashed 21 batteries of SAM-6, SAM-8 and SAM-9 -- a deadly weapon.

Yet in your letter to me and in your speech to the American people you did not, Mr President, ever mention the bravery of the Israeli fighter nor the great sacrifices of the Israeli army and people. The impression one could have gotten was that Mr Philip Habib, with the help of the expeditionary units, achieved the result. It is my duty to tell you, Mr President, that I was struck by the omission. I state a fact, I do not complain.

What I do protest is the omission to consult us prior to forwarding your proposals to Jordan and Saudi Arabia, the former, an outspoken opponent of the Camp David accords, the latter a complete stranger to and an adversary of these accords.

As there was no prior consultation, the United States Government could have taken the position that the "West Bank" should be reassociated with Jordan. What some call the "West Bank," Mr President, is Judaea and Samaria, and this simple historic truth will never change. There are cynics who deride history. They may continue their derision as they wish, but I will stand by the truth. And the truth is that millenia ago there was a Jewish kingdom of Judaea and Samaria where our kings knelt to God, where our prophets brought forth the vision of eternal peace, where we developed a rather rich civilization which we took with us in our hearts and in our minds, on our long global trek for over 18 centuries, and, with it, we came back home.

By aggressive war, by invasion, King 'Abdallah conquered parts of Judaea and Samaria in 1948, and in a war of most legitimate self-defence in 1967, after being attacked by King Husayn, we liberated, with God's help, that portion of our homeland. Judaea and Samaria will never again be the "West Bank" of the Hashamite Kingdom of Jordan which was created by British colonialism after the French Army expelled King Faysal from Damascus.

At Camp David we suggested -- yes, it was our initiative -- full autonomy for the Arab or Palestinian inhabitants, of Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District, with a transitional period of five years. It is a generous suggestion offering the widest scope of autonomy existing on earth in our time, as I have had occasion to prove to prominent guests whom I have received in Jerusalem from France, Italy and Belgium, who know something of autonomy.

The matter of security is of paramount importance. Geography and history have ordained that Judaea and Samaria be mountainous country and that two-thirds of our population dwell in the coastal plain dominated by those mountains. From them you can hit every city, every town, each township and village and, last but not least, our principal airport in the plain below. We used to live penned in eight miles from the seashore, and now, Mr President, you suggest to us in your proposals, that we return to almost that same situation.

True, you declare that you will not support the creation of a Palestinian state in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza District. But such a state will arise of itself the day Judaea and Samaria are given to Jordanian jurisdiction. Then, in no time, we and you will have a Soviet base in the heart of the Middle East. Under no circumstances shall we accept such a possibility ever arising which would endanger our very existence. Mr President, you and I chose for the last two years to call our countries "friends and allies." Such being the case, a friend does not weaken his friend, an ally does not put his ally in jeopardy. This would be the inevitable consequence were the "positions" transmitted to me on August 31, 1982, to become reality.

I believe they won't.

"For Zion's sake will I not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest." (Isaiah, Chapter 62)

Yours respectfully and sincerely, Menahem.

MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE APPROVES SETTLEMENTS

TA051610 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Text] The Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs this afternoon approved the establishment of five settlements in Judaea and Samaria, as well as one settlement for the Yamit evacuees in the Gaza District. Of the five Judaea and Samaria settlements, three have so far been IDF footholds.

Our correspondent Moti 'Eden reports that the new settlements are: Ginnat, near Janin; Kokhba, near the 'Ezyon bloc; Susya, in the southern slopes of the Hebron hills; and Yaqin and 'Omarim, also in the southern slopes of the Hebron hills. The settlement approved for the Gaza District is Ele Sinay. The ministerial committee likewise approved a master plan for settlement in the southern slopes of the Hebron hills, and in future another seven settlements will be established there.

The committee chairman, Acting Prime Minister Simha Ehrlich, said there is no connection between the establishment of the settlements and President Reagan's new initiative.

Further Report

TA051714 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Text] The Ministerial Committee for Settlement Affairs this afternoon approved the establishment of seven Judaea and Samaria settlements, of which five are in the southern slopes of the Hebron hills, and one for settlement of Yamit evacuees in the Gaza District. Of the seven Judaea and Samaria settlements, three have thus far been IDF footholds.

Our correspondent Moti 'Eden reports that the settlements are: Ginnat, near Janin; Kokhba near the 'Ezyon bloc; and, in the southern slopes of the Hebron hills, Susya, Yaqin, 'Omarim, Negohot and Adora. The settlement of Ele Sinay will be established in the Sinai district.[as heard]

Our correspondent emphasizes that the plan to establish the settlements was given to the committee members some 2 weeks ago, prior to President Reagan's initiative.

CABINET MEETS 5 SEPTEMBER, REVIEWS FIGHTING

TA051158 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1150 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Text] I have just been informed that the Cabinet meeting ended in Jerusalem. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer is at the prime minister's office.

[Schiffer -- live] The Cabinet today began the summing up discussion on Operation Peace for Galilee. The prime minister and defense minister opened the discussion. Later, the chief of staff, the head of army intelligence, the commander of the Northern Command, the air force commander and the navy commander briefed the Cabinet about the operation.

In its next session the Cabinet will continue to deal with these conclusions. In his remarks the prime minister congratulated, on behalf of the Cabinet, the defense minister, the chief of staff, the commanders and the soldiers and extended his condolences to the bereaved families. Mr Begin said the following [apparently recorded earlier]:

We paid a very dear price. In the Cabinet meeting we should again express all due honor we bear in our hearts toward the mental courage of the bereaved families. I think it is not only the sons -- the courageous and the holy -- who fell but also their families, some of which said to us at the height of the war -- and I read those letters with my own eyes -- that indeed they lost a son or a husband but go on with the war and may the Lord be with you. The bereaved people themselves sent additional boosting and consoling remarks to us. This is one of the greatest phenomena of dedication in our people and this phenomenon [word indistinct] our future.

[Schiffer] Well then, only reviews were heard in the Cabinet meeting today. The ministers have not yet expressed their positions regarding the next stage of the arrangements. As may have been expected, those which were expected to be raised were not. Nobody asked why the meeting between Begin and Al-Jumayyil was publicized. The ministers who intended to ask these questions did not pose them for some reason. Also, the U.S. issue, the issue of the Reagan plan, was not raised in the Cabinet meeting today either.

Today the prime minister will send his letter to the U.S. President. Thus the Cabinet meeting was over.

Begin Address

TA060812 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 6 Sep 82 p 2

["Text" of Prime Minister Begin's address to the Cabinet on 5 Sep]

[Text] Gentlemen, Operation Peace for Galilee, an illustrious, historical campaign, has effectively ended in a total victory for Israel.

I want to express, on behalf of the Cabinet, my appreciation to the minister of defense, the chief of staff, the O.C. Northern Command, the deputy chief of staff, the head of operations, the director of military intelligence and all of the services -- air, sea and land -- to all of the commanders, all of the soldiers, all of the units, for the great deeds they performed in the course of the last three months. They have brought honour to the nation of Israel. With Hebrew weapons, they have demonstrated the immeasurable deterrent power of the IDF against any enemy. I believe they have repelled, for an indefinite period, any attempt to attack us from any quarter and have guaranteed, in essence, peace for Israel for many years. No one will take away from us the fruits of the victory. The fruits of the victory will be ours -- we will see to it.

We have paid a very high price. The Cabinet expresses, once more, the full-hearted gratitude owned to the profound heroism displayed by the bereaved families. I think that it is not only the sons who fell who were heroes and martyrs, but also their families, some of whom called upon us, saying, at the height of the fighting -- and I read these letters with my own eyes -- yes, we have suffered a loss, a son or husband, but continue fighting, stay strong; and other reassuring and comforting expressions like these were sent to us by the mourners themselves. This was one of the greatest manifestations of self-sacrifice in our nation, and this phenomenon guarantees our future.

We know that there were exceptions, but in truth they were few in number. The IDF, too, stood the test and measured up with great success.

The Cabinet expresses its appreciation to all arms of the IDF, to all of the services. The air force performed great and wonderful things. So too the navy, which did great and wonderful things. So too the ranks of the armour and the artillery. There are those who say that the superiority of American weaponry over Soviet weaponry was demonstrated. This is an untrue statement. The truth is that the superiority of American and Israeli weapons over Soviet weapons was demonstrated -- and, above all, the superiority of Jewish intelligence and the Jewish spirit over all of our enemies, including the supports of our enemies, was proven. This is what was proven in this battle.

We still have in our possession inventions that no one else has, and this is a result of the Jewish thinking and preparedness for sacrifice that was revealed in the past three months. There has been nothing more sublime that this from the time Jews, weapons in hand, went out to battle for the freedom of their nation more than 40 years ago. There was never more supreme sacrifice and lofty heroism in the history of humanity; certainly, very rarely has there been anything similar.

In all of these we are blessed and proud, and we shall know what a great privilege it is to be the Government of Israel in these days and to command such an army.

Sharon Remarks

TA051511 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Text] Speaking at the Cabinet session today, the defense minister said the war in Lebanon was the first Israeli war that ended without disputes between the military and political echelons. Before that war, he said, there was never a war in the history of the Israeli wars that was not accompanied by jarring notes of clashes between these two echelons. This, then, is one other achievement the Cabinet should be proud of. He emphasized that Israel is the only country in the world that went out to combat terrorism uncompromisingly, and this should serve as an example to other countries. He also reviewed the Cabinet's involvement in making decisions in the course of the battles, saying that the decisions were made in a democratic fashion.

Destruction Reported

TA060647 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0628 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] According to information reported yesterday at the Cabinet session, of the 26,000 buildings in the area, 350 were destroyed during the fighting in west Beirut. According to the report, buildings were hit mainly in the southern part of west Beirut, in the area of the camps. Only 40 buildings in the northern part of west Beirut suffered hits. The targets bombed and shelled had been identified as terrorist headquarters or bases. Our political correspondent Gad Becker reports that the prime minister intends to report on these data this week at the Knesset.

IDF Radio Report

TA051625 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1525 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Report by political correspondent Gad Becker -- recorded]

[Excerpt] In today's Cabinet meeting, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon said that in Operation Peace for Galilee there had been a cease-fire after a relatively short time in comparison with other wars. Sharon stressed that the Cabinet had been involved, in a democratic fashion, during the entire decisionmaking process, and that the Cabinet's brave decisions were what led, in the final analysis, to the expulsion of the terrorists, as he put it.

The reports given to the ministers dwelt, inter alia, on casualty figures and the damage to buildings in Beirut. According to the data reported, the extent of the casualties and destruction is much less than reports claimed.

The Cabinet session did not discuss President Reagan's new plan. The prime minister today sent his letter of reply to the President containing Israel's total rejection of the plan. Begin mentioned the debate among U.S. Jewry, some of whom support the President's plan, and stressed that the decisions are made in Jerusalem and by the government.

Also at the session, Industry and Commerce Minister Gid'on Pat asked the prime minister about his meeting with Bashir al-Jumayyil, about the latter's having been leaked, and why its being made public was not prevented after Begin told the ministers last Thursday that he almost could not sleep all that night. The prime minister refused to add new details, saying only: "One does not ask a man why he did not sleep at night." Pat replied: I wanted to know mainly why the censor did not sleep that night. So much for the Cabinet session.

After the Cabinet session, Sharon met with U.S. diplomat Morris Draper, who had come from Beirut. The defense minister expressed the hope that Israeli citizens -- like other citizens -- would soon be able to move freely in all of Beirut, within the efforts to achieve true peace with the new Lebanese Government.

SHAMIR MEETS DRAPER; HABIB TO CONTINUE TALKS

TA051639 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1555 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Text] Philip Habib and the members of his team will continue to conduct political negotiations over the evacuation of the Syrians and the terrorists from all of Lebanese territory, Habib's aide, diplomat Morris Draper, reported to Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir at a meeting they held this afternoon. Draper said the negotiations would be resumed very shortly, following consultations to be held by Philip Habib in Washington. From the Foreign Ministry, where the meeting between Shamir and Draper was held, our correspondent 'Oz Frenkel reports:

The discussion between the foreign minister and the U.S. envoy was on what is termed the second stage: in other words, the removal of all foreign forces from Lebanon, following the completion of the first stage -- the evacuation of the Syrians and the terrorists from Beirut. Morris Draper told the foreign minister that he expects difficult negotiations with the Syrians, but he expressed optimism as to the chances of success for the continuation of the political moves.

In answer to a question by Shamir, Draper said the team headed by Philip Habib -- the team that had succeeded in completing the first stage -- would continue the negotiations' next stages. Habib and the members of his team are leaving tomorrow for Washington for consultations with Secretary of State Shultz and other members of the administration. They will return shortly to the Middle East. It should be noted that the schedule is not yet known. Morris Draper reported at length about the removal of the terrorists from Beirut, and said the evacuation had been carried out quicker and better than had been planned.

Further Report

TA051749 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1715 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Studio interview with political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer by announcer Tzvi Salton -- live]

[Text] [Question] Shim'on Schiffer, the PLO at this stage has rejected the Reagan plan, so this is the place to ask you whether at the meeting Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir had with Philip Habib's aide, this issue was discussed?

[Answer] President Reagan's plan was not at all raised at the meeting with Morris Draper. Philip Habib's aide will depart for Washington tomorrow, after the first stage of the evacuation of Beirut has been completed. He expressed his pleasure at being able to report to Ministers Shamir and Sharon that in 5 days the marines will leave to return to the United States, and that in the middle of the month the Italian and French Army soldiers will similarly return to their countries, the evacuation of the city behind them. Life in Beirut is returning to normal, Morris Draper said, and certainly there is great progress in reuniting the city.

Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon told Draper that Israel has prepared Beirut International Airport and is currently prepared to hand it over to the Lebanese aviation authorities, so that aircraft can once again land at that airport. Morris Draper said Philip Habib will return to the region on 23 September to participate in President Bashir al-Jumayyil's swearing-in ceremony. The next day he will arrive in Jerusalem to meet with the prime minister, thus setting off the negotiations for the evacuation of foreign forces from Lebanon. Draper estimated that the Syrians and terrorists would ultimately leave Lebanon after difficult negotiations, as he put it. In the next few days, the IDF soldiers will help clear mines and anything else they are asked to do by the Lebanese Army. This will end another stage.

Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir thanked Morris Draper and asked him to convey these words of gratitude to Philip Habib as well. It looks as though right now events connected with Lebanon will somewhat ease until after Rosh Hashana [18 September], at which point the negotiations toward the removal of all foreign forces will renew. Once again, it should be pointed out that the U.S. evaluation is that the Syrians will leave Lebanon, as will the terrorists. That is all.

WEINBERGER, SHAMIR COMMENT ON MEETING

TA031921 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1815 GMT 3 Sep 82

[Excerpts] Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger has said that President Reagan is determined to implement the new U.S. plan for the Middle East despite Israel's opposition. At a meeting with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir which took place in Jerusalem this morning, it was agreed that there was full agreement between Israel and the United States about the removal of Syrian forces from Lebanon and support for Bashir al-Jumayyil's regime. Our correspondent Yoram Ronen reports from the Jerusalem Foreign Ministry.

[Begin videotape] [Ronen] When he came out of the foreign minister's office, Caspar Weinberger answered correspondents' questions:

[Weinberger -- in English] I think the President has made a very able and deeply felt proposal to improve the security of Israel and to bring peace to the whole region and I hope that will be appreciated and understood throughout the whole region.

[Unidentified correspondent -- in English] [First words indistinct] ...now that Israel has rejected this plan?

[Weinberger] Well, I think that, as we have seen, there are a number of people within Israel and a number of possibilities for consideration of the plan and we haven't had any indication of what other countries feel about it yet, at least, I haven't here, and I think that we just have to see what develops. I know the President doesn't adopt positions lightly and that this is a carefully thought out, deeply felt position by the President to enhance peace in the entire region and that one of the principal aspects of that is to improve future security of Israel.

[Question] Mr secretary... [words indistinct]

[Answer] I would characterize them as a first shot reaction.

[Question] Mr Secretary, the prime minister indicated that the United States did not consult Israel before suggesting this plan and he did consult Saudi Arabia and Jordan.

[Answer] No, it's mostly a matter of timing, that the procedural questions, I think, are totally secondary to the content of the plan in any event. It was vital to ensure that participants, people in countries who did not participate in the Camp David process participate in this.

[Yitzhaq Shamir -- in Hebrew] I had no doubts about the friendly intentions of the U.S. President, but we emphasized that the emerging trend, despite the intentions, could be negative and most grave and from this stems Israel's sharp opposition.

[Ronen] Would you define the new situation that has been created, Mr Shamir, as confrontation between Israel and the United States by the fact that Israel will now go out on an offensive to foil President Reagan's plan?

[Answer] We must remember, and it will also be stressed in the talks, that the relations of profound friendship between Israel and the United States remain and will also exist in the future. There are differences of opinion here regarding those lines that were published without consulting us.

[Question] Opposition Chairman Shim'on Peres and other Alignment members felt that there were many positive elements in President Reagan's plan.

[Answer] That is an incorrect position and, I would say, damages, in this situation, Israel's positions, not only those of the Government of Israel. When we are involved in profound differences of opinion with the United States about the most vital matters involving our security and our existence, I do not think that a responsible opposition should have taken a position contradicting that of the government.

[Question] Then you think this plan is clearer than the Rogers plan?

[Answer] Of course.

[Question] Mr Shamir, would you say the new U.S. plan is a result of the Lebanon war, a political result of our military victory in Lebanon?

[Answer] I would not say this. First of all, it is doubtful whether it is a plan. They are ideas and I hope they will be changed before they are formulated into a plan. Second, these moods have been prevalent for a long time in certain offices in the United States and it may be that the Lebanon war accelerated a certain process concerning these ideas. Perhaps someone thinks that Israel should not think that it is too strong, that it is too determinant a factor in the area, but in any event, I very much hope that the United States will retract it.

[Question] Mr Shamir, this morning the Voice of Israel publicized the matter of the prime minister's meeting, with the participation of you and the defense minister, with the president-elect, Bashir al-Jumayyil. Can you confirm this report?

[Answer] I deny that report. [end videotape]

Shamir Interview

TA031041 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0852 GMT 3 Sep 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir this morning expresses the hope that the Reagan plan will be a matter of the past, like other similar U.S. plans. Our political correspondent Gad Becker spoke to Minister Shamir:

[Begin recording] [Becker] Mr Foreign Minister, you have just finished a meeting with U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger. You discussed President Reagan's plan. Can it be said that Israel's political aim now is to change or cancel the U.S. plan?

[Shamir] Our aim is to renew the negotiations over the autonomy in the framework of the Camp David accords as they were accepted by us, Egypt and the United States. Therefore, all those things published which conflict with what is said in the Camp David accords should not disturb these negotiations, since we want to renew them.

[Question] Weinberger said the President is adamant in his attitudes, and that he invested a lot of thought in his plan. Do you think this U.S. plan can be changed?

[Answer] In the history of relations between the United States and Israel there were quite a few statements and announcements which Israel did not accept, and they became a thing of the past.

[Question] Mr Shamir, in its reaction the Jordanian Government did not say it adopts the plan, but its attitude to the plan is of a positive nature. Do you see any progress in such an attitude?

[Answer] I have not yet seen the full content of the Jordanian announcement, but what is of interest to me is first of all to what extent any plan, including this one, furthers our interests, and our answer is negative, and this is what is important.

[Question] The Cabinet, in its official announcement, warns that the U.S. plan will bring about the establishment of a Palestinian state. Did the U.S. secretary of defense calm your worries on that point?

[Answer] We did not enter into detailed discussions of this point. I spoke to him about it because he, as secretary of defense, can understand better the security aspects of the subject, and I drew his attention to the danger arising from, that might arise from, those principles when Israel is pushed toward the 1967 lines. He does not think so but I cannot say that he calmed me.

[Question] Mr Shamir, you as foreign minister, and the government as a whole, do not feel a certain isolation when at home the Alignment announces that its reaction to the plan is quite positive, and from outside part of the U.S. Jewry expresses support for the U.S. plan?

[Answer] I think that from the point of view of the power distribution, the government feels that most of the people in Israel support the government, its actions and its attitude.

[Question] Last question sir, about the continuing contacts with Lebanon: Would you say the ties between Israel and Lebanon, the ties with the president-elect of Lebanon are advancing in the right direction and at the right pace?

[Answer] We are hoping for this.

[Question] And the reality?

[Answer] The reality will prove that we have achieved our goals. [end recording]

Our political correspondent Gad Becker adds that in the Shamir-Weinberger talk they reached complete agreement on the issue of Lebanon. Weinberger said the United States understands and accepts that Israel will not be able to withdraw from Lebanon as long as Syria remains there. The United States is of the opinion that there should be peace between Israel and Lebanon. The U.S. secretary stressed that President Reagan is the greatest friend of Israel.

SHARON ON U.S. PLAN, WEINBERGER, OTHER ISSUES

TA040923 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0805 GMT 4 Sep 82

["Weekly Newsreel" with Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon interviewed by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal on 3 September -- place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Sharon] I think that the visit by U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger was short indeed but very successful, a visit in which we made clear the areas of Israel's security problems, as well as the answers Israel has for these problems.

We did not ask for anything during this visit, nor did we appeal for anything. We presented the problems, Israel's replies, Israeli military power and its high technological ability in the defense production field. We visited IDF bases, we visited an emergency stockpiles unit, we visited Samaria, and we visited the Golan Heights. I presented the map of settlements in Judaea and Samaria necessary for Israel's security.

The guest was given the opportunity to survey from close quarters the special Israeli security problems that stem from the large Israeli population concentration in a narrow coastal strip. This was made possible by having him visit points of control in Judaea and Samaria. He could understand things by viewing them directly. In this respect I think this visit had achievements. On the Golan Heights he observed a successful IDF fire drill: A combined armored and air force drill together with helicopters. He undoubtedly was deeply impressed by Israel's military ability and its ability to respond to the security problems preoccupying it.

I think it was important that he visited Israel, especially these days -- now that the U.S. President has issued a new plan -- when it is important to maintain a system of contacts and friendship. I think the friendship has increased in this security. [sentence as heard] I made it clear that especially due to the existing friendship -- the friendship between allies such as the United States and Israel -- it is necessary that Israel be allowed to draw the most benefit from its achievement in Lebanon and the expulsion of the terrorists. I also clarified that this is both Israel's right and duty. Israel should be enabled to materialize the autonomy talks and the autonomy agreement according to the Camp David accords, since now, when the threat of terrorism is lifted, there is a chance we will find partners to this program among the Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el.

I myself began, or rather resumed talks a week ago [with these Arabs], and I intend to continue them next week. I also made it clear we have not yet exhausted the plan adopted in Camp David. We are at the very beginning and, therefore, outside intervention in an attempt to impose a solution is a grave and regrettable mistake which will not be successful either. There is no chance that anybody will be able to impose such a plan on Israel from the outside. In the talks I held, I made it clear that Israel is a democracy. Different voices are heard in it regarding political solutions -- and it is good that this is so -- but there is only one policy: that of the Israeli Government. Only this policy will be implemented since it represents the majority of the people.

I think that, in sum, the guest left with a deep impression of the IDF's ability and of the fact that the State of Israel possesses answers to the various security problems facing it. It seems to me that, following his meetings with the prime minister, the foreign minister and myself, he left with the clear feeling that Israel is determined not to deviate at all from that program of autonomy presented by Israel and which, in our opinion, is the single realistic program.

[Question] However, Weinberger also said the United States adheres to President Reagan's plan, and that it will do everything in its power to realize it.

[Answer] In the talks with me, we did not deal with this issue. I clarified the Israeli positions. The main point of the visit, as I have said, was to present Israel's ability from the security point of view, its ability to handle its problems, the variety of answers at Israel's disposal due to the various existing constraints. I think that on this matter what decides things and will decide things will be Israel's stance, only. It will be impossible to impose any other solution on Israel.

We have a plan designated to enable the Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el, during the autonomy period, during 5 years, to be almost without any intervention on our part. This is the only plan Israel will be prepared to maintain. It should be remembered that there is an Arab-Palestinian state. I am not here dealing with King Husayn's personal fate; it is totally immaterial. He can remain. If this Palestinian state wants Husayn as its king, this is its business. However, there is a Palestinian state which in fact contains 75 percent of Eretz Yisra'el's area. It is important to emphasize this. I have recently heard that statements made on this issue by the foreign minister and myself in recent months have, as it were, accelerated the process. In my opinion, this is not only untrue, but I think this is the mistake of the entire Israeli Government, and I would say also of the pre-state Israeli leadership in not emphasizing time and again -- this should have been done since 1922, when the first division here was effected, 75 percent of Eretz Yisra'el was taken and it was turned into what was initially the other side of the Jordan and then Jordan -- that this is in fact the existing Palestinian state.

It should be remembered that one cannot always give negative answers. One cannot say what cannot be done. One should also point to solutions, to what can be done. Therefore, Israel proposed the autonomy plan as an interim 5-year-long plan; therefore, Israel should repeatedly stress that Jordan is indeed a Palestinian state and that this is the solution. We cannot, in my opinion, come and say there will be no solution. We should point to the existing solution, and the existing solution is the fact of Jordan being a Palestinian state. Therefore, I think it is important to stress this. Israel, as I have said, will not deviate from its position on the issue of its program. This is the government's decision. The Cabinet decision was passed unanimously, it is binding on Israel and this was clearly explained to the U.S. secretary of defense and surely to the U.S. President by Prime Minister Begin.

As for the method of action, I think that when we talk of allies -- Israeli-U.S. relations are ultimately those of allies -- work should be carried out differently. It is impossible that an issue concerning the security and survival of Israel, more than the security and survival of other countries, should be discussed first with other countries. We are not talking here of national prestige, not at all. This is an issue of existence from Israel's point of view. Therefore, there should not be discussion and receipt of others' consent before this issue is discussed with Israel, and its position and view are heard. The position and view of Israel were decisively heard following the decision of the Cabinet, which discussed the issue. Had this been done the way it should have been, I think the United States would have spared itself a lot of disappointment since, after all, when such plans are concluded with other countries it is harder to retract them, and the United States will have no choice but to retract its plan because it cannot be implemented. Israel will not only not accept the plan; Israel will not discuss it either.

[Question] Minister Sharon, somewhere in the United States the U.S. President is sitting and perhaps making similar remarks, that there will be no choice and Israel will go back on its position. Do you foresee a conflict on this issue or an aggravation of relations, or how should we really call this?

[Answer] I expect there will be a struggle over this issue. However, whoever knows the history of Israeli-U.S. relations knows that despite the traditional friendship existing for decades, there have been many struggles all through. Ultimately speaking, we succeeded in existing, developing and achieving our national desires here, and so it will be in the future as well.

[Question] Mr Sharon, how do you explain the unequivocal, so sharp government reaction to the Reagan plan? Were there no points of this plan which had better be considered, at least, before being rejected?

[Answer] This plan runs totally counter to the Camp David accords. Furthermore, it contains many dangers for Israel and I think the government was wise to reject outright all the details of the proposal. In our opinion, this proposal as presented should not be a subject for discussion at all. This is the government's position. We have a plan, the autonomy plan. For the first time in years, following the hard blow dealt the PLO in Lebanon, it is possible to have the beginning of a dialogue with the Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el. We have not yet tried, we have not yet begun. There is no reason not to try and discuss and solve problems according to that proposal raised by Israel. There is neither any connection nor any similarity between the Camp David accords, this part dealing with the autonomy issue, and the proposals sent by President Reagan. It is good that the government has rejected them. One should, in advance and clearly, say things that Israel cannot accept. It is preferable to say this in advance, and to stop this process right from the outset.

[Tal] These remarks were made by the defense minister yesterday. Other remarks he made on other issues are as follows:

Lebanon -- The meaning of signing a peace treaty with Lebanon is that the government established there will adopt measures necessary for Israel's security on the northern border, provided that an agreement will indeed be signed. If a government is set up in Lebanon which will not sign a peace agreement with us, we will have an interest in maintaining a special status in southern Lebanon, along a 40-to 50-km security strip. This does not necessarily mean leaving the IDF there, Sharon said, but a special status will be necessary in order to preserve our security along the northern border. Sharon said that this position was made clear to U.S. and Lebanese representatives dealing with the issue.

PERES INTERVIEWED ON REAGAN PLAN, OTHER ISSUES

TA041135 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2105 GMT 3 Sep 82

[Interview with Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres by Yitzhaq Livni on 3 September -- place not given -- live]

[Excerpts] [Question -- intercepted in progress] Let us speak on the future of the State of Israel and relations between Israel and the Palestinians. I was surprised that this time too the present emerged victorious over the future. This talk with you was decided on a few weeks ago, and the future we wanted to discuss with you today has become current events. Let us discuss the substance of affairs this time. Are you happy, MK Peres, about Reagan's message and what it contains?

[Answer] The word happy is not suitable here. I certainly believe this a first-rate development. As you know, I was among those who, perhaps more than is anyone else, believed in what was termed the Jordanian option. This Jordanian option drew a lot of mockery. Where are the Jordanians? Where are the Americans? These were the questions asked. [interruption in transmission] Jordan now believes there is a chance these negotiations will be positively concluded. This may surely be a totally new development. That was also the case with As-Sadat.

[Question] Can Husayn afford the risk after all the traumatic memories of the murder of his grandfather, and with the full knowledge that most Jordanians are Palestinians and their support for the PLO is known? Can he undertake such a risk?

[Answer] Look, Husayn's advantage is that he knows how to survive. His shortcoming is that he does not know how to choose. He has emerged in one piece from all the assassination attempts perpetrated against him. He always lost and was broken by agreements he made with other countries. He chooses wrongly but survives well. I assume Husayn would not have done this had he not believed and perhaps known he would gain the support of additional Arab countries.

[Question] The government, as is known, is opposed to what is said in the message. The Labor Party and you support it to quite a large extent. I want to go over the elements and go beyond this, to the future, as to whether a Palestinian state will be the result of this message or not. As the prime minister said: If such a Jordanian option exists, who will prevent Husayn, after Judaea and Samaria are linked to Jordan, from giving Judaea and Samaria to 'Arafat and allowing him to set up a state there?

[Answer] Look, there are risks in anything. In political matters one should look for the chances. I will take the plan of the prime minister himself, the autonomy plan. Do you really think there is any guarantee that a Palestinian state will not evolve from the autonomy plan? What is the prime minister talking about? The autonomy plan is, in fact, the most significant step the State of Israel ever took toward the creation of a Palestinian entity. What is he threatening us with? It is he who did this. If the autonomy plan collapses we will be faced with another danger of renewed war. Nonetheless, I am not judging the prime minister by the dangers inherent in his plans, but by the chances. I claim that the autonomy he insists on stands no chance. In contrast, when the Jordanian issue arises, I believe there is a chance. There are dangers in all moves.

[Question] Let us return to the Reagan message. The PLO is not mentioned in the Reagan message as an element that will control Judaea and Samaria in the future. The Jordanian option in fact runs counter to this possibility. Have we not learned, from the results of the Lebanon war, that there is now a better chance that the PLO will move toward a political option? The PLO lost its military territorial basis but has reached many achievements. Reagan said that if they give up the Palestinian Charter he will talk with them. Can this not happen?

[Answer] You are not asking me to guess what the PLO will do, nor to decide instead of it. I should first decide what Israel has to do. In my eyes the picture is very clear. Let us put the PLO on the side for a while. Why should we care about it so much? There are four possibilities in Judaea and Samaria: 1) To negotiate with the PLO on the future of Judaea and Samaria; 2) To negotiate with Jordan on the future of Judaea and Samaria; 3) To negotiate with the area village leagues; and 4) To annex these areas as Tehiya members Ge'ula Kohen and Yuval Ne'eman want.

Annexation is a betrayal of the Jewish cause. Eretz Yisra'el has always been Jewish. However, Jewish land for a Jewish state is only theoretical. If indeed we annex the Arabs, we will cease to be a Jewish state and will become a Jewish-Arab state with the demographic balance working in the Arabs' favor. Are we going to destroy the Jewish state from the inside due to illusions? This government has hardly spoken of immigration.

I am not ruling out the area village leagues, but are they a real force in Judaea and Samaria? Can they attract 1.3 million Arabs? I do not believe they represent 1.3 million. In my opinion, the political, realistic choice is between Jordan and the PLO, and since I negate the PLO, I favor Jordan.

[Question] Mr Peres, let us return to the Reagan message. One of the greatest novelties there -- there may be an argument about this -- is his reference to defensible borders. In other words, he is prepared to recognize that Israel has a territorial, defensive problem.

[Answer] Absolutely.

[Question] What are defensible borders to you? It is true that there are no negotiations yet, but Reagan is also now saying what he would like to see in 5 years.

[Answer] The question is not theoretical, but geographic. Politics evolves from geography. In my opinion, defensible borders mean that no hostile and foreign army will cross the Jordan toward Israel.

[Question] However, Reagan is talking about domestic security.

[Answer] You asked my opinion, not Reagan's. Therefore, in my opinion the IDF and a strip of settlements should be located along the Jordan River in order to prevent the entry of a foreign army. Those areas which will move under Jordanian-Palestinian rule must remain demilitarized. I am opposed to a Palestinian state, because with such a state two conditions cannot be obtained: a guarantee that the Jordan will be a barrier, a barrier which we guard, or the possibilities of demilitarizing territories.

[Question] Let us deal with the defensible borders matter further. I know nobody wants to mark borders in advance because this matter is subject to negotiations. At the same time, Reagan did what is not done in negotiations: He said today what his conception for solving the Eretz Yisra'el problem will be after 5 years. Maybe you should also do so concerning the border. Can you more or less mark your defensible borders beyond the question of demilitarization?

[Answer] I have said this: I want the Jordan River guarded by us in order to guarantee the nonentry of a foreign army, and other areas demilitarized. Jerusalem should remain unified. These are the three major points.

[Question] You are not marking any more areas west of the Jordan? Do you not have more specifics here?

[Answer] I cannot imagine anything. There is a very interesting thing: the Egyptian precedent. According to the Camp David accords we returned the Sinai to Egypt, the land of the Sinai and sovereignty there. However, the Egyptians too made far-reaching compromises: A. They agreed that most of the Sinai will remain demilitarized for an unlimited period of time. The Sinai will be demilitarized. B. They also agreed that a multinational force be stationed in Sharm ash-Shaykh in order to guarantee freedom of navigation. In other words, there is a matter of zoning here, of determining strips and areas with different levels of guarding, security and demilitarization. Imagine to yourself that before we started the negotiations over the Sinai, an Israeli statesman would have come with maps. This is the result of negotiations.

[Question] You mention that in the Sinai the entire area, without exceptions, was returned to the Egyptians. Is this not expected to happen in Judaea and Samaria?

[Answer] No, because the legal situation in the Sinai was different than that of Judaea and Samaria. In the Sinai we were preceded by a sovereign. In Judaea and Samaria there was no sovereign before us. The problem in the Sinai was that of sovereignty. The problem in Judaea and Samaria is that of inhabitants.

[Question] Why do the Americans have to speak of the state of affairs after 5 years? After all, when one conducts negotiations, efforts are made to minimize, as much as possible, the predetermination of issues subject to deliberations and formulation.

[Answer] In my opinion, the Americans did this since they take both the Arab and Israeli sides into consideration. They wanted to strike a balance between the first 5 years and what will happen afterward. Apparently, without this they could not pull the cart out of the mud. This is their logic. In the U.S. proposals there are positive points for Israel and there are positive points for the Arabs as well. The same holds true for the negative points.

[Question] You said you are sure Jordan will participate in the political talks...

[Answer, interrupting] No, that is not what I said. I said Jordan has already agreed. I put it very clearly.

[Question] There will be another summit, the Fes summit next week. It is possible that Reagan's timing was tied to this summit. More countries are there. Some of them are called moderates, some are not. There, as far as they are concerned, the Fahd plan is on the agenda. This plan is more far-reaching against Israel than what Reagan is proposing. Do you believe that these moderate countries, together with the PLO, will move in the direction of the U.S. plan? Will Jordan then join them? What do you foresee will happen?

[Answer] I do not know about all of these countries. My estimation is that Jordan would not have given its consent if it had not felt it would gain the support of some Arab countries, not all of them.

[Question] Will Egypt and Saudi Arabia go for this?

[Answer] Egypt has already said yes, not in so many words [last 5 words in English] but these will be pondered and they may surely come up with qualifications [last word in English]. It is not nice for them to show enthusiasm about such a plan. There are fashions in life. This is not fashionable, but Egypt did not reject this and I surely agree with you that the time chosen precedes the Fes summit.

[Question] You were asked about your talks with Reagan, Shultz and others there, whether you influenced their positions and how legitimate this is, and you have given your answer already, so there is no point in dealing with this again...

[Answer, interrupting] No. I would like to tell you that since I am not so spoiled by my party, I was very glad when the Likud leaders rose and said in public that during my 1 and 1/2 days in Washington I influenced all the authorities there to decide a new policy. I have never received a better compliment in my political career.

[Question] Is this an established assumption to a certain extent?

[Answer] If you want me to join the league of self-admiration, all right. I assume my talk there had an effect just as any other talk could have. I surely presented the Alignment's position there. I tried to present it as clearly as possible, and if it had an effect and influence, I am proud of this.

[Question] I am asking because even before Reagan's message was publicized -- from authoritative sources, people who heard about your talk with Reagan in detail -- that there was a stunning similarity between what you said and what was implied in Reagan's remarks. I understand you spoke a little more than Reagan there, according to these sources, but there was far-reaching agreement. Is this true?

[Answer] I could leave such an impression. A representative of our embassy was also present there. In the meeting with me Reagan did something a bit unusual: He invited to the meeting the vice president, the secretary of state, the heads of his office, all in all about eight or nine prominent figures in the U.S. administration. After his greeting he said he wanted to hear from me how I conceive of the future and of the right political ways. I lectured my view on the subject, and then he told me he believes there is a chance Jordan will join. He told me he believes Jordan will be a second Egypt. I made this public immediately upon my return. By the way, I also gained compliments at the time from our government people for presenting my position. It should be remembered that I began the talks with the following: I want you to know I am in the opposition, but I am opposed to a Palestinian state, I am opposed to negotiations with the PLO, I am opposed to the division of Jerusalem. Do not make a mistake, if we assume power this opposition will not change. However, in contrast, I believe in this, that and the other.

[Question] What in your opinion will happen in Lebanon? May the Syrians indeed leave Lebanon so that we too leave, or will there be a division of areas of influence?

[Answer] I think the Syrians will prefer mutual evacuation to the division of Lebanon between two zones of influence.

[Question] Do you assume this will happen soon?

[Answer] I cannot commit myself to dates. I can only see the Syrian logic. The Syrians believe that they [can] have political influence without military presence, and that Israel does not have this. In contrast, if there is a military presence in Lebanon, the Israeli military presence immeasurably surpasses, in power, that of Syria.

PERES GRANTS INTERVIEW TO 'AL HAMISHMAR

TA031515 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 3 Sep 82 pp 3, 10, 11

[Interview with Labor Party Chairman MK Shim'on Peres by Dorit Gefen in the Labor Party building on 1 September]

[Excerpts] Opposition Chairman MK Shim'on Peres has been the target of criticism from all sides. The Cabinet and the opposition have been instigating against him -- and through him also against the entire Alignment -- in all the vile demagogical methods they so frequently employ. Even within his camp, in the Alignment and the Labor Party, people spare him no criticism. More than any other opposition representative, Peres has been portrayed in the public eye as the one chiefly responsible for the Alignment "blunders," which has cost him a high price in the form of a steep decline in his personal popularity in public opinion polls.

The presentation of the U.S. plan for peace has in fact brought the Jordanian option back to the political agenda, even though Begin and his colleagues have been mocking Peres and the Alignment with it.

Last week we met Shim'on Peres in his office in the Labor Party building and asked for his opinion on the U.S. plan, the war, the opposition and on his standing in public opinion polls.

Question: One of the prevalent assumptions regarding the war in Lebanon was that the Cabinet actually had Judaea and Samaria in mind, but wished to take the wind out of the sails of the Palestinians in the territories in regard to their national aspirations. What do you think about this?

Answer: It is immaterial whether such an assumption existed or not. In fact, this is what happened. Begin and Arik Sharon's policy led to a situation in which the Palestinian issue arose all at once and is currently taking the first place. His threats to Jordan resulted in the U.S. administration becoming more and more committed on the Jordanian issue itself. If this interview had taken place yesterday (Tuesday -- D.G.), possibly the issues would have been different, but today (Wednesday -- D.G.) there is an even greater shift in U.S. policy. I told my colleagues even as far back as 2 weeks ago that in my opinion the Palestinian topic will again capture the headlines after Beirut. This, in fact, is precisely what happened. I think we are now beginning to pay the political price for Operation Peace for Galilee. Begin was the one who always boasted that, unlike us, he will reap all the fruits. Well, there are fruits; the question is who is reaping them?

Question: The Reagan administration has begun to show "color" and is employing a clear language in regard to the solution of the Palestinian problem. What did you hear about this during your latest visit to Washington?

Answer: In my talks in Washington four things were obvious. I said we object to a Palestinian state and we oppose negotiations with the PLO. President Reagan, Shultz and Weinberger all told me they believed in the Jordanian option. They believed it is necessary to incorporate Jordan into the negotiations. They believe that Jordan will enter them and that there are things to talk about with Jordan. Shultz told me that in his opinion the Arabs want peace. They are very doubtful whether their desire for peace could yield the kind of fruit that would be acceptable to them, but he expressed his appraisal that the Arabs might be satisfied with something less than a Palestinian state.

Question: From what Sharon said after his talks in Washington could not one gather that there was a new U.S. plan?

Answer: Anyone who views Arik's policy cannot but be guided by huge signs: "Beware!" and "Halt!" Let us examine only the last few years: One day, after Israel agreed to evacuate the Sinai, we were informed that 15 dummy [deme] settlements were being established in the Sinai. To this day we have not gotten a satisfactory, logical explanation for this. Why was this necessary? Why was it necessary to enter into a conflict with Egypt and the United States, to establish settlements and then remove them with humiliation? After all, a person must be judged by his record. It is a lucky thing we always forget.

Question: But Sharon keeps maintaining that the entire matter was anchored in a Cabinet resolution....

Answer: Things are always anchored in Cabinet resolutions with him. He always shows the anchor and hides the ship. Then he set up 'Azmona in the Rafah approaches, after he himself had been the chief evacuator of that very area. Why? Let someone explain to the layman why this was done. Then there was another historic event that changed the face of the entire world: the strategic memorandum of understanding between us and the United States. American will no longer help us, and I am using Begin's words, but we will help America. We were told how we would save America from the Soviet claws, and how the entire world would alter as a result of the memorandum of understanding and the things it will give us: joint exercises, emergency stockpiles -- all this has already been forgotten. Tanks keep moving right and left and the Middle East map has become too small for us. We began printing maps extending from Afghanistan to Turkey. The whole world map is changing according to Arik Sharon's sayings. And what came out of it?

Question: Could the moderate reaction and the U.S. silence, implying consent, over most of the moves during the war in Lebanon not be taken to signify a "test case" for the memorandum?

Answer: Nothing of the sort. This was a local affair. It is true that the United States gained something out of it, but this is not to say that it was under an obligation to share it with Israel. The affair of the memorandum took place in December of 1981. All in all, 8 months have passed since, and what happened to it? How has the United States managed to survive without us? How dare it stand up to the Soviet Union without the aid offered it by the Begin government? Perhaps the only really practical thing that came out of the memorandum of understanding is that the Soviet gates have been shut even firmer. This is the only result I can think of. Just now, on Monday, Sharon returned from the United States and said there is full understanding between us and the United States. What does this mean? Nothing like that has ever happened before. This heralds a new situation in the Middle East. All this is true; we do have an understanding with the United States, but what he failed to think about was whether there is also understanding with the United States on important, major issues. He again repeated the thing about the memorandum. A wonderous achievement: we and the United States walking hand in hand. So first of all this is not the true picture.

Question: You are criticizing Sharon quite heavily.

Answer: In my opinion the exaggerations in the "Peace for Galilee" Operation caused the Palestinian issue to rise up again. They brought about very heavy undercurrents in the Arab world. We will feel them eventually. One cannot look at Beirut only through the spectacles of the evacuation of the terrorists, or as Sharon calls it, their expulsion, with their arms. One must take a broader, more long-range view. Now the entire nation is faced with the question: What kind of Israel? A binational Israel with one sword or a Jewish Israel which, although armed with a sword is nonetheless looking for peace?

Question: What does this imply in terms of the Alignment?

Answer: The Alignment must enter the battle. We must not identify with what the United States suggests, nor should we react hysterically. If Jordan is prepared to sit at the negotiating table, this should be welcomed.

Question: You know the Cabinet and its leaders. Are we not to expect the kind of typical "You expected something and we are giving you the exact opposite" reaction? We have already heard some voices hinting as much.

Answer: I know it, and I know those who write about the government as well. I do not accept this. On those occasions where the United States exemplied firm determination Begin bowed, even with his broken leg. In Camp David he signed a document written largely by the United States, not himself, including expressions such as the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and their just demands; and including the fact that sovereignty over Judaea and Samaria is not determined. On the matter of the bombing of Beirut he capitulated like a child. What really happened politically is that the Cabinet led us to such a degree of dependence on the United States that it hardly has any other choice. Israel owes $25 billion, mainly to the United States, and the person controlling the tap regulating the loans is in the position to determine Israel's future. This is the result of the spendthrift policy conducted so carelessly and irresponsibly by Begin, Sharon and Aridor. We must call the rose a rose and not be afraid.

Question: Should the Alignment tell us that we have no other choice or should we derive the most out of the U.S. plan?

Answer: No, the Alignment will not buy the U.S. ticket. The Alignment is pursuing its own ticket, which in its mind shows a wide perspective. We never wanted to annex Judaea and Samaria in the first place; we never wanted a settlement policy in the style of Begin and Yuval Ne'eman. We said right from the start that Jordan must be incorporated. Just because the United States says similar things do I have to rescind this? There no doubt are some substantive things in the plan that was rejected. Let us peruse it carefully and in an organized fashion. I am still not commenting on the entire plan. The Alignment is no tool in the hands of the United States. It is not a tool of Lebanon or of anyone. It is the servant of the future of this country.

Question: What are the specifics of the plan? Do you think it contains a chance or a way out in the direction of a solution for the Palestinian problem according to the Alignment's positions?

Answer: I do not think we must accept the plan as though it were holy gospel. It has elements that suit us and others that should be rejected. I am absolutely opposed to the hysteria Begin is trying to create, nor am I prepared to give up those things that seem to me vital for Israel, even though it was the United States that suggested this.

Question: Let us go back to the war. Is it over?

Answer: In my opinion Israel should decide that it is. That is not to say that I mean the problems are over. Wars can only solve some of the problems. Here, too, if I view things from a historic perspective I could say that ever since the country was established we, both Likud and Alignment governments, have fought against the terrorists. There were three peaks in the war against the terrorists: the "Sinai Campaign," "Black September" and the "Peace for Galilee" operation. After the "Sinai Campaign" not only were we more highly esteemed throughout the world, but we also developed ties with Ethiopia, Turkey, Iran and Africa. We did not pay a political price. The number of casualties reached 180. Strictly from a historic point of view the most convenient operation for Israel was the one we were not involved in -- "Black September." At that time, Husayn eliminated 6,000 to 14,000 terrorists -- the number is debatable. The others were expelled from Jordan without their arms and with no television cameras filming the event. Husayn took responsibility for ensuring quiet along the entire eastern front, which he did. He is not letting the terrorists and their katyushas cross the border. Clearly, the calm in the south and in the east gave rise to the problem of the north. There, too, we should have reached peace. I do not accept the argument that we should not have acted against the terrorists. It was necessary to take action against them, but only against them.

Question: You mean you support the war?

Answer: Exaggerated, unjustified and unnecessary things were done, such as the bombing of Beirut. In all the wars we were careful not to bomb cities. We honored Arab capitals, and never entered one. The blockade on the supply of water, electricity and food was totally unnecessary. The terrorists had no choice but to leave, because of the demand by the Lebanese Government as well as the antagonism felt by the inhabitants of Beirut, because of the U.S. mediation as well as a result of the IDF siege. Arik Sharon himself admitted that part of the bombings were aimed at hitting terrorist centers and their leaders. After thousands of shells and bombs were used the fact remains that they remained intact. That is why I am not prepared to be impressed by everything.

Question: Is there no danger that a new war might erupt on the Syrian front?

Answer: We object to the resumption of the war. We have ended the war. Enough. A war cannot be measured only by its results, but also by its price. Another war means more casualties and further distress. As long as the United States says it is possible to evacuate both the Syrians and us, I would be inclined to be in favor of letting the United States conduct the appropriate political negotiations. I believe there is a chance that the Syrians might pull out of their own free will. This process will need time. I believe that after the terrorists leave Beirut the IDF will have to leave the city of its own accord and hand it over to the Lebanese Government, president and army so that they can handle its affairs. No IDF presence should be left behind in Beirut, because the whole world will interpret this as our intervention in domestic Lebanese affairs. Then one must wait for all of Lebanon to be evacuated as a consequence of political negotiations, without using military means.

Question: Should such negotiations not be limited in time?

Answer: Anyone who says so in fact exerts pressure in the direction of imposing a military threat. This, after all, is what the question is all about. The question is not theoretical. Those who say it should be limited in time are in fact saying: If not this, then we will present a military threat. What do we need this for? What do we need the military threat for? Anyone who introduces it might lose U.S. cooperation.

Question: Judging by Israel's interests, would it not be worth while for our army to stage at least a partial pullback to separate the various armed forces?

Answer: No, this is simply a wrong notion. There is a suggestion to effect a disengagement, but such negotiations would only take longer than the very negotiations on a comprehensive pullback. Not only are the negotiations over disengagement lines complicated, but the result might be that the disengagement lines would become rather permanent lines. Anyone interested in a comprehensive withdrawal should not support disengagement lines.

Question: The Alignment objected to the war even before it broke out. There was agreement in regard to the initial objective, whereas the various stages of the war were criticized. In retrospect, did the war not justify itself? Did it not yield substantial results?

Answer: It certainly did result in important achievements, but it also involved a heavy price. One cannot have two separate balances. It is one total. Clearly the entire effort involved in the first 40 km was all positive. From then onward the balance is rather mixed, involving both achievements and cost. Because the final toll has not yet been completed I would not like to sum it up. I am ready to leave it for historians to do, and wait patiently. What interests me today is how to resolve the Palestinian problem and how to remove all the foreign forces from Lebanon. As for the war, its nature and its outcome, I am in no hurry to sum it up.

Question: The opposition was confronted with criticism from both sides. The Cabinet accused it of being disloyal and the public affiliated with the Alignment argued that it was not adamant enough. What problem is the head of the largest opposition party faced with at such a time as the Lebanese war?

Answer: In my opinion we should be a responsible, not a demagogic, opposition. Some have been saying: Be like Begin. I do not accept this. I will not be a Begin, I was never a Begin nor do I have aspirations to be like him. In Begin's eyes the only one who is loyal to the nation is the one who stands in the town square shouting: "Begin! Begin!" I think this is in conflict with the democratic spirit of Israel.

Begin emptied Israeli democracy of all content. He only maintained the procedure. But to be specific: In times of war an opposition must act differently than during peace. There is no other way. We are too small a people to split in times of war. When 200,000 boys are recruited, all the mothers and fathers pray that the war will end quickly and successfully, that there will be no disruptions from within. This is legitimate. No one could dispute this. They should really be outstanding issues -- such as the invasion of Beirut or the bombing of that city or the stoppage of the supply of water -- for the opposition to have no other alternative but to raise its voice on the grounds of morals and politics. All the critics are smartasses. Let us leave the Likud's criticism, which is damagoguery and not worth a tuppence in my eyes. Still, among us there was criticism in both directions. Some thought we were not supportive enough of the government, and others thought we were not critical enough. I think this is natural. I cannot issue a decree forcing people to think this way or feel otherwise. I think we acted with full responsibility. Where we were supposed to put our shoulder to the wheel, we did. Where we had to say stop, we did. I reject all this criticism. There are people among us who actually want the Labor Party to be like the Likud -- not in content but in form. A leader who gives orders and everyone responds by saying "Hurray!" This to me is negative and contradicts my entire philosophy.

People can criticize me to their heart's content. I believe I am leading the Alignment in the most democratic, honest and open fashion. And I am proud of it. In my mind this is not a disadvantage. The fact that we are the opposite of Begin is to me an advantage.

Question: The polls have not been complimentary either to yourself or the Alignment....

Answer: The polls compliment Begin highly, but do you want me to act like Begin? What is your conclusion? They are very complimentary to the Likud. So what? Should I adopt the Likud's positions? In my eyes all the polls are transient, with only a temporal value. They have no permanent, lasting value. I must only recall that 2 weeks prior to the latest elections in June 1981 after the bombing of the Iraqi reactor the polls indicated a drop for the Alignment down to 28 seats, and these were the favorable polls. Others showed that we dropped to 22 seats. The pollsters approached me, saying: Everything is over. You have lost the battle. You must resign. Polls about me personally were also very negative....

Question: But I know you were considering resigning, giving up your position....

Answer: I always consider everything. I did, and decided against it. Within 2 weeks the Alignment regained 47 seats, in fact 48. We missed winning a 48th seat by 150 votes. So what should I think of the polls? Why should they impress me?

Question: Meanwhile, though, there have been rumors that if the Alignment wants to have any chance at all of winning the next election it should first of all change its leader, and perhaps also part of its leadership.

Answer: I was not elected by the polls. I was elected by a democratic majority. I am not prepared to refer to the polls. I believe that what counts is the subjects, not the man. A year and a half ago I led the polls -- what difference does this make? None. In general it is possible to mess up the democratic processes by taking three pollsters and letting them decide for us on the road, the men, the ideology. This will save us a lot of work.

Question: Recently you admitted that at one time you agreed to join a national unity government. This idea has been constantly topical. Was it, among other things, in order to gain legitimacy, as Dov Ben-Me'ir suggested?

Answer: God forbid. The Alignment does not need the stamp of legality from anyone. I never thought so, nor do I think so today. Six months ago I summoned my colleagues, including the MAPAM members, and told them that in my opinion a war would break out in Lebanon in 6 months and that there was only one way to either prevent it altogether or limit its scope: by joining a national unity government, with the defense portfolio coming to us. I think I was right, but my MAPAM colleagues, and not only those from MAPAM, saw this as a casus belli. Since I was not sure among other things that Begin was sincere, I feared that a situation might arise that on the one hand the Alignment would split or on the other hand it would have no positive effect. I am not sitting here just to dissolve the Alignment; therefore, following serious consideration, I reached the conclusion that this was unfeasible and abandoned the idea.

Question: It was reported that you were offered something similar during the war.

Answer: During the war I never thought for a moment that the offer was serious.

Question: But it did come up?

Answer: Some people suggested it, but I did not agree.

Question: It seems to me that you are an extraordinary phenomenon. In early 1977 you were at the height of popularity both among the public that does not support the Alignment as well as within it. You reached a peak 18 months ago and since then there was a retreat and a great drop. I believe this bothers you too. Where was the slip? What happened?

Answer: I believe that anyone who were to sit in my position would have encountered a similar fate. Anyone who heads the Alignment is a prime target for Likud attacks, even if he is not always supported by his colleagues. I predict that anyone who would sit here during times when we are in the opposition and would attempt to maintain the unity of the camp and its fighting spirit would meet the same fate in terms of his personal popularity. I am saying this not with sorrow, regret or apologies. I do not think the history books are full of popularity polls. They are full of the results. The fact is that the Alignment is a 50-member faction, the largest in the Knesset, and has maintained its integrity both when outside the government as well as when facing impossible events like the As-Sadat visit, the peace treaty, U.S.-Israeli relations, the bombing of the Iraqi reactor or the division of funds by Yoram Aridor. I know one should be made of steel to withstand such events and not fail in spirit, not panic and not despair.

Question: Before the war it looked as though the elections would be advanced. Today it looks as though this is distant history.

Answer: Each day looks different.

Question: Do you think there is a chance that the elections might be advanced?

Answer: I would not like to prophesy. I am not ruling anything out, either that it could take place, or that it might not. I have already said that in June it transpired that 2 weeks is a very long time. Today I can say that one night is very long. At night the Israeli ambassador to the United States came and said that the United States had not yet formulated a plan and he still does not know what will happen, and in the morning we wake up and there is a new situation. This is a country with incredible ups and downs. The speed at which events take place is immense, and anyone who wants to play the role of prophet around here should not enter into politics.

SHARON STATEMENT ON EIGHT MISSING SOLDIERS

TA061258 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1240 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Statement by Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon to IDF correspondent Yinon Shenqar, in Beirut on 6 September -- recorded]

[Text] I relayed a grave warning yesterday via the Americans to the Syrians. The soldiers, then, were captured apparently by terrorist groups operating in the area under Syrian control and no doubt under their [Syrian] full responsibility. We gave the Syrians a vigorous warning not to harm the soldiers who have fallen prisoner. We announced that we know they were all taken alive, and I hope that the Syrians will understand that they have to take all the necessary steps in order to ensure that their lives are preserved.

Again, I appeal to the soldiers and officers of the IDF to exercise utmost alertness. I have done this several times during the past several months, especially during recent weeks. The situation today is such that there is very considerable civilian movement in Beirut. The city is open. Maximum alertness and preparedness must be shown, especially now.

Further Sharon Remarks

TA061548 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Statement by Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon in the eastern sector of Beirut on 6 September to correspondent Yinon Shinkar -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [Sharon] Our forces are here -- after most of them have already been thinned out, reservists having been released -- in order to guarantee that the city should, in the end, be a free city, that it should be possible to move safely within it. It is true that all the roadblocks have been removed and everything is open to traffic, but within the city there are still groups of armed people, locals mainly. This refers to Lebanese. In Beirut itself there are about 27 different groups which include, perhaps, up to 7,000 armed people.

[Question] Are they Palestinian terrorists?

[Answer] No, terrorists are certainly also in hiding, but those terrorists can be located and the arms caches and those organizations remaining can be dealt with -- an action that will be carried out by the Lebanese Army. We are here, helping the Lebanese Army at its request. We are helping to open roadblocks on highways here and clearing minefields, and all this has one goal: that Beirut should become an open city, and a safe one. That, of course, is also in our interest. There is no question here of combat activities. It is a question of a slow advance by the Lebanese Army into the city and when it asks, it receives our help, just as it also receives aid from others.

LEVI WARNS OF RETALIATION AGAINST SYRIA

TA061058 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1028 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Interview with Deputy Prime Minister David Levi by correspondent Menahem Horowitz -- date, place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Levi] The kidnapping is a grave matter, and Israel has warned -- and took pains to have this warning relayed -- that we insist that the soldiers be released and that no harm be done to them. We regard this incident with great seriousness.

Israel has many ways to retaliate against Syria for this act, and if we wanted to we could carry out far more extensive and sophisticated actions. Israel has not done so -- not because it was unable to do so -- but because it did not regard this as being necessary. We are honoring the cease-fire, and the other side must also do so and redress the act by returning the prisoners. The sooner this is done, the better it will be for all concerned.

[Question] Is there an intention to open negotiations with the Syrians over the return of all the prisoners -- on both sides -- captured in Operation Peace for Galilee?

[Answer] This matter is being handled by the appropriate echelon. I hope that the problem will be solved quickly, not only for these, but also with respect to other prisoners we are trying to get back.

LEFTIST GROUP CLAIMS KIDNAPPING CREDIT

TA061108 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] An organization calling itself the Combined Forces of the Palestinian and Lebanese Left Fighters has announced that it is holding captive the eight IDF soldiers kidnapped in the Bhamdun area. The organization's announcement was broadcast in Arabic over the Al-Murabitun organization's radio. No details were reported on the condition of the Israeli captives.

SHAMIR ON LEBANESE SECURITY, AUTONOMY TALKS

TA070753 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 7 Sep 82 pp 1, 2

[Report by diplomatic correspondent Asher Wallfish]

[Text] Israel believes that the best way to prevent PLO terrorists from returning to southern Lebanon is for military cooperation between Israel and Lebanon.

Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said this to the ambassadors of the European Community, whom he had invited to his bureau in Jerusalem for a briefing on recent developments in Lebanon. Israel feels that an international force or a multi-national force, would not be effective in preventing PLO infiltration, he said.

Shamir said that 8,846 terrorists and 6,062 Syrian or Palestine Liberation Army soldiers had left Beirut in the first phase. "But there are still a few thousand terrorists in eastern and northern Lebanon," he reminded the European ambassadors, "and we hope to get them out, along with the Syrian occupation forces."

The foreign minister said he hoped for a speedy conclusion to the second stage of negotiations in Lebanon -- to get all foreign forces out -- which would start in the last week of September, when U.S. mediator Philip Habib comes back to the region.

"Syria has no reason to remain in Lebanon since Israel is not scheming to attack Syria, and we assume that Lebanon has no such designs either," he said.

He said that if all goes smoothly, Israel will soon be holding talks with the Lebanese Government on security arrangements to protect Israel's northern border. Simultaneously, Israel would discuss normalization of relations with the next Lebanese Government, and eventually a peace agreement as well.

Now that the operation in Lebanon is over, Shamir said, the time has come to resume negotiations on autonomy for the Arabs of the West Bank and Gaza. Israel is ready to resume them at any time, he said.

Since the PLO had been driven from Lebanon, and also weakened politically, he said, it would now be easier to conduct the negotiations within the framework of Camp David. But the negotiations had been impeded, he said, because the partners to the negotiations had presented preconditions.

"Israel does not see any justification for new ideas and new elements being injected into the autonomy talks," he said. "The new American ideas have made us unhappy. They contradict Camp David."

Shamir said that Israel had differences of opinion with the U.S., but the resultant debate need not interfere with the peace process.

He said that Europe should take stock of the new conditions recently created in the Middle East. He rebuked European states, which, in the course of meetings and receptions with PLO representatives, had attached exaggerated importance to the PLO. "This merely harms peace efforts," he said.

Shamir said that Europe could play a role in the normalization of relations between Israel and its neighbours -- by assisting in joint Israel-Arab projects, for example. "But Europe should not take action in any other framework at present," he urged.

Shamir said that when he attends the UN General Assembly in New York he will confer there with European foreign ministers, and take the dialogue further.

The directors-general of the European Community Foreign Ministries, meeting in Copenhagen in a few days, are likely to express European approval for President Ronald Reagan's proposals on autonomy. David Kimche, the director-general of the Foreign Ministry, left for Copenhagen yesterday to convey Israel's negative stand on the Reagan proposals to his European counterparts, and so try to counteract European opposition to Israel's policy in the autonomy talks.

SHARON ON 'SPECIAL STATUS' FOR SOUTH LEBANON

TA070530 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 7 Sep 82

[Text] Last night, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon warned that if no peace [treaty] is signed with Lebanon, the 40-km strip in southern Lebanon will enjoy a special status. Minister Sharon was speaking in Qiryat Shemona last night at a ceremony held bestowing honorary citizenship on him. He said: Peace with Lebanon is not a gesture but a prime need. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht was in Qiryat Shemona and heard the defense minister's address:

[Begin recording with Sharon remarks apparently recorder earlier] [Hecht] Following a tour of the IDF units in Beirut, the defense minister stated that the extermination of terrorism from the western part of the city is being conducted to our full satisfaction. The Israeli Government, Sharon emphasized, is determined not to let even one Syrian soldier or terrorist remain on Lebanese soil.

[Sharon] We are not battle-happy. These stages will be carried out through negotiations, but Israel is determined not to let one terrorist or Syrian stay on Lebanese soil. If we insist on this and demonstrate the kind of forbearance and patience as we have thus far shown, up until the unique explusion of the murders' organizations from Beirut, we will also witness the removal of the terrorists and Syrians from all of Lebanon, in order to guarantee that this friendly neighboring country no longer serves as a springboard for terrorism against us.

Also, we will seek -- and I believe we will also reach -- peace with Lebanon, and will have an open border between the two countries.

[Hecht] A peace treaty will not constitute a Lebanese gesture toward us, Sharon emphasized. It is an unambiguous Israeli demand because as far as we are concerned it is a vital security need.

[Sharon] Therefore we made clear that if there is a Lebanese government that will sign a peace treaty, Lebanon will undoubtedly be a united country in terms of its territorial integrity, one country. We in Israel in any case have no interest in any chunk of Lebanese territory. We are only interested in the security aspect there. But if there is a country, a government there, that does not endorse peace -- for a variety of reasons -- then there will undoubtedly be a different status for southern Lebanon along that security belt Israel needs, a 40-to 50-km strip. There will be a separate status in southern Lebanon.

[Hecht] Maj Sa'd Haddad sat opposite Ari'el Sharon last night, and the minister showered him with compliments, calling him a true friend, a celebrated fighter, and a man whose loyalty to Israel has passed all tests. If the message to Bashir al-Jumayyil's future government has not been sufficiently clarified so far, then yesterday a report was issued that the defense minister and Haddad met in Sidon to discuss security arrangements for the 40-km strip. [end recording]

TZIPORI ON U.S. 'INTERVENTION' IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS

TA071012 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 7 Sep 82

[Text] Communications Minister Mordekhay Tzipori believes that the White House statement of last night that the U.S. administration derives encouragement from the differences within the Israeli Government over President Reagan's plan is intervention in Israeli domestic affairs. He thinks that Israel should demand [lidrosh] that no similar occurrences recur. Minister Tzipori was speaking to reporters in Qiryat Gat.

LEVI, EHRLICH, GUR ON NEW ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS

TA062010 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] At an improvised news conference in Qazrin on the Golan Heights, Deputy Prime Minister David Levi said today that there was no connection between the Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs' decision and President Reagan's plan. Our correspondent Nisim Mish'al today heard the explanations of Simha Ehrlich, deputy prime minister and chairman of the Minsterial Committee on Settlement Affairs, of the decision to establish eight new settlements in the territories, and the reaction of MK Mordekhay Gur, Alignment:

[Begin videotape] [Question] Mr Ehrlich, was the decision to establish new settlements made to protest the publication of the U.S. President's plan?

[Answer] Under no circumstances, no. The decision that was made yesterday by the ministerial committee was scheduled to have been made a week ago. For technical reasons the committee's meeting was postponed. We prepare plans for settlement [hityashvut ulehitnahlut] in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza District not as protests and not as provocation, but in accordance with a plan according to which it is a Jew's natural right to settle anywhere throughout Eretz Yisra'el, and we do not take into account political plans or documents when we discuss this matter. These plans were prepared many months ago. As it happened, they took expression yesterday, but today -- that is, yesterday -- it was a coincidence.

[Question] Mr Ehrlich, in view of our delicate relations with the United States, would it not have been worth postponing the decision a little, the publication of the decision? To have chosen a more convenient time for Israel?

[Answer] First of all, any postponement would have been interpreted as having been deterred, and we have no intention of being deterred because I think -- and not only I, my colleagues think, and I am with them -- that the attempt to try to foil, or to influence us to stop Jewish settlement in Eretz Yisra'el is even an immoral imposition; it is unjustified.

[Question] Some of the settlements that have been decided upon are in the Gush 'Ezyon region and, according to the Alignment plan, this certainly is a security zone. So does the Alignment support these settlements?

[Gur] We support settlement in the security zones. Again, there is a feeling today that the latest decision is a sort of opposition [hatrasa], a sort of provocation. We do not want to provoke the United States; we want to take advantage of the opportunity that has been opened up for genuine negotiations. Therefore, were it up to us, we would not have decided today to actually establish such settlements or others, some of them not in security zones. What is more, we regard the government's step as political rather than a settlement step. We do not agree with this political step. [end videotape]

MODA'I ON U.S. REACTION TO NEW SETTLEMENTS

TA061359 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Interview with Minister Without Portfolio Yitzhaq Moda'i by David Essing in Jerusalem on 6 September -- recorded]

[Text] Israel's decision to set up new settlements in the territories has sparked a strong U.S. reaction. The Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs yesterday approved the establishment of four new sites, and earmarked three more for approval in the near future. In Jerusalem today David Essing took the issue to Minister Without Portofolio Yitzhaq Moda'i:

[Essing] Is the decision on the new settlements in effect a reply or, if you like, a retaliation to President Reagan's plan for Judaea, Samaria and Gaza?

[Moda'i] Well, first of all there is no room for retaliation, and the reply came out from the resolution of the Cabinet, which rejected the lines of thought and said that Israel will not be party to them. Now, as far as setting up new settlements, that has, luckily enough, become a routine in Israel over the last couple of years and we are continuing with the same policy that we have started since the Likud government came to power. Now you will of course notice that on all previous occasions, or most previous occasions when new settlements have been set up, the American administration did not react this way, and that, by itself, is a confirmation that that was in line with the American understanding of the Camp David.

[Question] And now, Secretary of State George Shultz has called this an unwelcome development and implied that it impairs the peace process. What is your reaction to that?

[Answer] Well, that it does not impair the peace process; it has nothing to do with whatever was agreed upon in Camp David and this point was not agreed upon, I can say was even rejected by all parties that participated at Camp David because a proposal like this did come up, that we should stop our setting up and extending settlements in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip.

Prime Minister Begin agreed to do it during 3 months whilst we were negotiating or supposed to negotiate the question of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip with the Egyptians. But since then we have gone on with setting up settlements and, as I said previously, never before was there such a reaction on the part of the American administration and there were secretaries of state before Secretary Shultz. Now, if this is his personal opinion, with all due respect, we do not agree with it.

[Question] But American spokesmen of the administration have always criticized the setting up of settlements. Israel's critics at home and abroad are asking now why Israel couldn't perhaps announces a moratorium on settlements as she did at Camp David in order to further the peace process, if there is a good prospect as Defense Minister Sharon seems to think in particular?

[Answer] Well, there is a good prospect, but we do not see the correlation between good prospects for settling the Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip issue, an issue which was actually agreed upon fully at Camp David, with the new settlements that we are building in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip. If you want to associate issues, you can actually associate any issues you want with the same question, but in our view it is not relevant because the future of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip as it may be eventually, as stipulated in Camp David, could accept within it settlements as many as they may be and as extended as they may become by that time.

KING HUSAYN'S RESPONSE TO REAGAN PLAN REPORTED

TA040916 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] King Husayn has informed President Reagan he views himself as a partner to his plan, but will not now be able to publicly adopt it. Our political correspondent has learned that Husayn informed Ronald Reagan he will be prepared to assume responsibility for the West Bank again. U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Nicholas Veliotes has recently visited Jordan and discussed the Reagan plan with the Jordanian leaders.

CAPTURE OF SOVIET SAM-9 BATTERIES REVEALED

TA051538 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 5 Sep 82 p 1

[Report by the military correspondent]

[Text] The fact of Israel's possession of Soviet SAM-9's was released yesterday for the first time, after this weapons system -- captured by the IDF in Lebanon -- was presented to U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger during his visit to Israel.

The SAM-9's were brought to Lebanon by a Libyan unit about a year ago and had been positioned in and south of the Ad-Damur area. In the past, the air force had attacked the SAM-9's operated by the Libyan unit in Ad-Damur.

During its advance, the IDF captured a SAM-9 radar system mounted on a Russian Gazelle-157 vehicle. In addition, SAM-9's were captured in the underground stockpiles near Ad-Damur. This report was barred from release for many weeks and only now -- after the system was presented to the Americans by the defense minister -- was it publicized.

It should be noted that in addition to the SAM-9, a short-range heat-seeking missile, the IDF also captured many Strella antiaircraft missiles and various types of antiaircraft cannons, including the 100-mm cannon, and the four-barrelled 23-mm cannon (termed Gun Dish in NATO).

REPORTAGE ON FRONTLINE SUMMIT IN LUSAKA

CA062344 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] The frontline states and SWAPO have sharply criticized the Western contact group and South Africa's insistence in linking Namibia's independence to the Cuban presence in Angola, saying the two issues have nothing to do with each other. They made the attack during their 3-hour summit held today at the state lodge east of Lusaka.

The frontline leaders, including President Kaunda, Chairman Julius Nyerere of Tanzania, Botswana's Quett Masire, Field Marshal Samora Machel of Mozambique, Eduardo dos Santos of Angola, Zimbabwe Prime Minister Robert Mugabe and SWAPO President Sam Nujoma, reaffirmed their support for UN Resolution 435 as the only relevant basis for Namibia's independence. (?The only) departure from the UN resolution can (?only) include the process of negotiation currently being undertaken by the frontliners, SWAPO, Nigeria, the Western contact group of five and South Africa. The frontline heads of state and government also scoffed at South Africa's time-buying tactics of delaying Namibia's freedom from South African rule. They called on South Africa to stop its unprovoked destabilizing activities (?in the region) particularly against Angola, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Zambia and other frontline countries.

The frontliners also restated their complete and unequivocal support for the freedom struggle being waged by the people of Namibia under the guidance of SWAPO. After the crucial summit, the leaders of Angola, Botswana, Tanzania, Zimbabwe and Mozambique flew back to their respective capitals.

Final Communique

EA051952 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Excerpt] The final communique on the summit held in Lusaka, Zambia, yesterday reaffirmed support for the struggle of the people of Namibia and the stand that UN Security Council Resolution No 435 remains the basis for the attainment of independence by that territory.

After noting the progress made at the New York meeting of the frontline states, Nigeria and SWAPO on the one hand and the Western contact group and South Africa on the other, the summit deplored the fact that the issue of the definition of an electoral system for elections in Namibia has not yet been settled.

The frontline summit noted with indignation the U.S. attempt to link negotiations on Namibian independence with the withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola. In this context, the summit emphasized the importance of separating the process of the decolonization of Namibia from the presence of Cuban forces in Angola.

The frontline states and SWAPO rigorously condemned the South African invasion of Angola and called on Pretoria to stop all acts of aggression and to withdraw its forces from Angolan territory.

Luanda Account

AB061240 Luanda Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] The Angolan head of state, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, over the weekend returned home from the Zambian capital, Lusaka, where he participated in the summit meeting of heads of state and government of the frontline member countries.

Discussions at the Lusaka summit centered on the Namibian independence process and the prevailing situation in southern Africa aggravated by racist South African aggressive actions, in particular against the People's Republic of Angola and Mozambique.

A final communique was released at the end of the summit in which the heads of state and government of the frontline countries reaffirmed their unflinching and total support to the liberation struggle waged by the Namibian people under their authentic representative, SWAPO.

The frontline heads of state also reaffirmed their support to the implementation of the UN Resolution 435 as the only basis for Namibia's independence. In the final communique, the frontline heads of state and government hold the United States responsible for the linkage of the Namibian independence problem with the presence of the Cuban internationalist troops in Angola. It was underlined in the communique that this linkage constitutes an interference in the internal affairs of the People's Republic of Angola.

The frontline heads of state also expressed their support for Angola's position on this question following the 4 February Angolan-Cuba declaration on the presence of Cuban troops in Angola. The 4 February Angola-Cuba declaration rejects allegations that the presence of Cuban troops in Angola delays negotiations toward Namibia's independence.

Finally, the frontline member states and SWAPO energetically condemned racist South African aggression on the People's Republic of Angola and called upon the Pretoria regime to stop its aggressive action and at the same time withdraw its troops from some parts of the Angola territory that the Pretoria regime continues to occupy.

They also condemned the racist South African sporadic attacks and the sabotage actions against the People's Republic of Mozambique, the Republics of Zimbabwe, Botswana and Zambia as well as the resumed support of the so-called Lesotho Liberation Army to carry out subversive actions against their country. They underlined that these terrorist activities (?are part of) the plans of international imperialism led by the United States of America to frustrate the development objectives of member countries of the SADCC [Southern Africa Development and Coordination Council].

It will be recalled that the summit meeting of frontline heads of state and government also included the participation of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe and SWAPO President Sam Nujoma.

Speaking at a dinner given in his honor by the Zambian head of state, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos of the People's Republic of Angola congratulated the great role played by the Zambian president, Kenneth Kaunda, to promote the process for the liberation of southern Africa and in particular regarding the Namibian independence process.

On the other hand, (Ruben Kamanga), member of the Central Committee of the United National Independence Party of Zambia, dismissed a statement made by the North American former secretary of state, Henry Kissinger, that the Zambian Government agreed Namibia's independence would be a year's time as the United States wants it to be.

The Zambian official also condemned imperialist maneuvers of linking the Namibia independence process to the withdrawal of the Cuban internationalist troops from Angola as part of their strategy of communist threat in Africa.

ANGOP Report

AB061250 Luanda ANGOP in French 1030 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] Luanda, 6 Sep (ANGOP) -- According to political observers, separating the process of decolonization in Namibia from the presence of the Cuban soldiers in the People's Republic of Angola was the major point of the Lusaka summit. For the moment, South Africa, the contact group and above all the United States of America insist that the Cuban forces should be withdrawn from Angola before the implementation of the UN plan for Namibia begins.

Former U.S. Secretary of State Kissinger, who has already met with South African officials, stated in passing through Luanda, that Namibia could become independent in a year's time, but he still established a link between this issue and the presence of Cuban troops in Angola.

According to the Zambian newspaper TIMES OF ZAMBIA, the Zambian authorities described the American position as a simple excuse which they use in their fight against the alleged communist threat in southern Africa. This, however, is the position of all the frontline states.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI EXPLAINS FES SUMMIT NONATTENDANCE

LD061648 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution said today he refuses to attend the Fes summit because he fears that collapse of what remains of the moral spirit of the Arab masses, particularly the new, angry generation. The moral spirit of the Arab masses would collapse if he were to take part in this defeated conference.

COMMENTARY DISCUSSES FES SUMMIT PURPOSE

LD060314 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 2015 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] Is it only a coincidence that the convening of the conferences of Arab governments is always too late and is it merely good will that delays the holding of Arab summit conferences to the point that none of them is held until the reason for which they are held is already settled by Israeli armed force? It is not pure chance nor good will that causes Arab summits to be held after it is too late. It is planning, collusion and premeditated ill will that play a complete role in the farce of Arab summits, where Arab rulers meet not to ward off imminent dangers and disastrous calamities but to agree that what has happened has happened and could not have been prevented or undone and that there is no way to avoid accepting it as a fact; it cannot be dismissed.

This is the position of the Arab rulers today, while they travel to Fes, Morocco, to hold a summit conference after the Israeli forces have occupied Lebanon and after the Zionist enemy has succeeded in its action to expel the Resistance from Beirut, scatter the Palestinian fighters in Arab states and ensure the success of its Phalangist, isolationist as president of occupied Lebanon. The Arab summit in Fes did not include on its agenda the question of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon or what military action the Arab nation should take to confront it and force the enemy to withdraw. This being the case, the belated Arab summit in Morocco does not include the question of an agreement on a pan-Arab plan for the liberation of occupied Arab soil. The agenda of this summit includes an agreement among the Arab governments to benefit from the results of the war in Lebanon by imposing surrender on the Arab nation and liquidating the Palestinian issue by adopting U.S. President Reagan's proposals, or the Arab copy of this scheme embodied in the Fahd initiative, or the third scheme, which will be submitted at the conference. Thus, the three schemes will be governed by a common denominator: They all recognize what is called Israel and call for what is called an acceptance of the fait accompli. They advocate that surrender to the enemy is the only realistic step.

The next stage is much more dangerous than all previous ones, because the next stage is the stage of harvesting the crop. The U.S. imperialists, the Zionist invaders and the Arab reactionaries are all getting ready to pick the fruit of the military invasion of Lebanon, the results of the Egyptian regime's surrender and the transfer of power in Lebanon to the isolationist Phalange. The Fes conference comes as an opportunity for the enemies of the Arab nation to realize their aims inside the Arab homeland at the expense of Arab nationalism and Palestine. This is a matter that calls on the revolutionary forces in the Arab homeland to quickly stand capable of bringing about a change in the Arab homeland that can destroy the Zionist-U.S.-reactionary conspiracy before this conspiracy takes its course and before the Arab nation is mortally wounded in its jugular vein.

REAGAN SPEECH ON MIDDLE EAST CRITICIZED

LD031516 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 3 Sep 82

[Text] Voice of America has broadcast the text of a speech by U.S. President Reagan. Voice of America also said this speech contains new American initiatives with regard to the so-called peace process in the Arab region.

In his speech, Reagan said his plan was presented to the Israelis, the Egyptian regime, Jordan and the Saudi kingdom.

When reviewing the speech, it appears that it does not at all go beyond the traitorous stable David agreements, which drive the Israeli death train from Tel Aviv to kill the Arabs one by one. Reagan said: These agreements are still the basis of our policy.

In his speech, Reagan said the question now is how to reconcile between what he calls the security demands of the Israelis and the legitimate rights of the Palestinians. He added that to reach this requires concessions. This is a clear call to the Palestinians to surrender and to yield to the Zionist demands. Reagan has called upon the Palestinian people to recognize that their political aspirations are inextricably bound to a recognition of what he calls the right of the Zionist entity to a secure future -- the security that knows no limit, but only knows expansion and domination for the establishment of a Zionist empire, which would embrace vast parts of the Arab homeland.

The U.S. President also called on Arab states to accept the Zionist entity as a reality although he admitted that the legitimacy of this entity has only been recognized by a small number of states. Reagan pointed out that it is the right of this entity to demand that his neighbors recognize these facts, namely, according to the American and the Zionist logic, with regard to the use of the logic of force, as has always been the case in the Israeli wars against the Arabs in 1948, 1967, 1973 and 1982, that is, to surrender under the threat of force.

Reagan asked the Arab states to make further land concessions in return for what he calls peace. In his plan, Reagan categorically rejected the establishment of a Palestinian state in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Moreover, he asked that occupied Jerusalem remain an undivided city, namely, a capital for the Israelis.

Reagan pointed out that the strategic importance of this region prompted him to present such a plan. He said: There is an absolute moral duty behind my plan. This is the moral duty that made him consolidate the killing of the innocent in Lebanon by the thousands. This is the moral duty that made him back the Zionist invasion and use the veto in the Security Council with a view to preventing the condemnation of this invasion. Reagan then boasted that he has always supported what he calls the heroic fighting of the Zionists and that the security of this entity is his personal commitment.

This plan is the second phase of the invasion of Lebanon and an unsuccessful attempt to improve the image of America. It is a new American assertion of widening the plot against the Arab nation and of backing the Israeli death train, which is proceeding toward the Arab homeland in new forms and methods. The Zionist rejection of this plan is a farce aimed at creating a fuss in order to provide the opportunity for the capitulating regimes to accept it. This was asserted by Reagan himself when he said that he has presented this plan in agreement with the Zionists, the Egyptian regime, Jordan and the Saudi kingdom.

U.S. Proposals Assailed

LD040432 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 2015 GMT 3 Sep 82

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] The simplest way to describe the Reagan proposal for solving the so-called Middle East crisis is to brand it a new U.S. aggression against the Arab nation and a culmination of the harrowing calamities that have befallen this nation. U.S. imperialism directly or indirectly lent support to the planning and implementation of these calamities.

This proposal has come as a political harvest of the military defeat suffered by the Arabs in the Beirut war. It comes as a conquerer dictating his terms to the vanquished or the strong to the weak. It comes also as an exploitation of the psychological and moral breakdown and collapse of the Arab nation to make it cling unconsciously to the provisions of this U.S. liquidationist-capitulationist solution. It also comes only a few day before the convening of the summit of garbage in Morocco so that the Arab rulers may consider and pass it for implementation.

It also comes while the basic and direct part of the scheme, namely, the Palestinian side, suffered collapse and destruction under the effect of the Zionist military (?machine) that used various deadly weapons, internationally banned and imported from U.S. imperialism, to scatter the Palestinians and drive them out of Lebanon by force until they eventually submit to U.S. demands and solutions which came as if imposed on them by brute military forces. The proposal comes also as an attempt to rescue the U.S. agents among the Arab rulers from the delicate position in which they found themselves versus the revolutionary wrath of the Arab masses, which pointed to a possible outbreak of a popular revolution as a result of their collusion with the Zionist enemy in physically destroying the revolutionary Palestinian presence in Lebanon.

Finally, the scheme comes as a naive attempt to whitewash the U.S. image before the Arab masses after the explosion of the anger of the Arab masses as a result of the U.S. stand and U.S. political, military and economic support for the barbarous Zionist invasion of Lebanon.

Everyone today is talking about the positive aspects in the proposal of the terrorist Reagan. For example, they are talking about freezing the building of Zionist settlement. However, they have not asked about the fate of 120 settlements built so far in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. They talk about the return of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip to Arab sovereignty through a weak, dwarfed and disfigured entity called self-rule which will be linked to the royalist regime in Jordan. However, they did not ask whether there was a reference to the PLO in the proposal made by Reagan who still regards it as a terrorist organization. Did he refer to the millions of Palestinians who are homeless and scattered in all parts of the world? Does the solution concern the Palestinians' resettlement or redressing the injustice especially when the West Bank cannot absorb 4 million Palestinians or is the self-rule meant to concern only the citizens of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and will the Palestinians there have complete sovereignty over that area in the shadow of the settlements already in existence, which Reagan did not mention in his scheme? Is it conceivable that self-rule is going to be free of Zionist security and political and military control?

The question of self-rule in the Reagan proposal in essence does not go beyond the Begin proposal contained in the Camp David agreements. The Reagan proposal does not provide anything more than what actually exists at present.

As for the so-called Israeli rejection, it is part of the theatrical farce of this proposal. The United States could not put forward any scheme contradicting the Zionist settlement and colonization interests.

All the elements in the Reagan proposal are tailored to serve the interests of the racist Zionists. The proposal does not contain any positive element as Arab rulers are trying to make the masses falsely believe. They tried this because they are so attached to their new prophet Reagan and their new qibla -- the U.S. black house -- and because the Arabs are in such a low psychological state that this makes them see white as black and black as white and they become colorblind.

The Reagan scheme is a carbon copy of the Alon scheme put forward following the September massacre in Jordan and which placed the Palestinians between two large millstones -- the Zionists on one side and the reactionary royalist regime in Jordan on the other side. It is a bait for Jordan -- to bring Jordan into the Camp David domain and to pan-Arabize Camp David by raising it for approval at the Arab summit in Morocco. It draws the picture for the final disposal of the Palestinian issue and it strikes out the name Palestine from the political dictionary for good. It paves the way for the Israeli train of death which has started from Tel Aviv to kill the Arabs one by one and one country after another.

The real solution to the Arab-Zionist conflict is the one that is formulated by the revolutionary will of the Arab masses, the one backed by the force of the revolution whose provisions are: halting the influx of Zionist settlers; halting the deliveries of arms to the area except to those struggling for their rights; establishing a democratic Palestinian state based on Palestinian Arabs and Palestinian Jews. This just and proper solution will be implemented by war or peace because it represents the essence of right and truth.

The masses bear the direct responsibility for frustrating the Reagan proposal and they alone can depose the hireling and treasonous figures who support it. They can foil all the tricks that seek to defuse the powderkeg and encircle and check the eruption of the popular revolution volcano.

TUNISIA

YASIR 'ARAFAT ARRIVES IN TUNIS 3 SEPTEMBER

LD031910 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 3 Sep 82

[Text] Tunisia -- The president, government and people today welcomed the leader of the Palestinian Revolution Yasir 'Arafat. The Tunisian Government had chartered a special plane to transport the Palestinian leader from Athens. He was accompanied from Athens to Tunis by Mahmoud Mestiri, president of the National Assembly; Beji Caid es-Sebsi, foreign minister; Mongi Kooli, minister at the prime minister's office and director of the party; and Sadok Ben Jomaa, minister of transport and communications.

The aircraft arrived at Tunis-Carthage international airport just before 1800. President Habib Bourguiba, his wife and members of the government and Political Bureau were the first to welcome leader Yasir 'Arafat. It was a warm and emotional encounter between the supreme combatant and the Palestinian leader. Many bouquets of flowers were offered to Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat]. The president accompanied his eminent guest to the podium, erected especially for this occasion, in order to salute the flag while the Tunisian and Palestinian national anthems were played. The supreme combatant and his guest reviewed a unit of the Tunisian Army. Afterward, well-wishers including commanders and a group of Palestinian combatants came forward to welcome Yasir 'Arafat. Popular masses for hours were present around the airport holding Palestinian flags and welcome slogans to express feelings of love, high regard and absolute support for the Palestinian Revolution and its leader, the combatant Yasir 'Arafat.

At the VIP lounge at the Tunis-Carthage International Airport, Abu 'Ammar told newsmen:

[Begin recording] I am proud of and cherish the fact that his excellency the president, the mujahid [combatant for a holy cause] Habib Bourguiba has the occasion, and [words indistinct] combatant brothers this occasion. After we fulfilled our national and religious duty in Beirut, he opened the door of this good and loyal country to his sons the mujahidin. I am proud of this and I cherish these historic moments. I recall God's words, the words of Almighty God: God has bought from the believers their selves and their possessions against the gift of paradise; they fight in the way of God; they kill and are killed; that is a promise binding upon God in the Torah, and the Gospel and the Koran; and who fulfills his covenant truer than God? So rejoice in the bargain you have made with him.

I recall these holy verses from the Koran in these historic and difficult times through which our Palestinian people and our Arab nation are currently passing; times during which we said in Beirut: We fight so that in this region neither the Israeli nor the Zionist decision will prevail but the will of our Arab nation. I know that the battle is a long one and we have moved from one post of struggle to a new one in the house of the brother president, the combatant Habib Bourguiba, and also to other struggle posts so that we may continue together, God willing, on the road to victory to Palestine, to holy Jerusalem (?with the help of God). [end recording]

Bourguiba Confers With 'Arafat

LD041410 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba at noon today received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at the presidential palace in Carthage. The meeting was attended by the Tunisian prime minister, foreign minister and interior minister and the PLO representative in Tunisia.

On leaving the presidential palace, 'Arafat replied to a question on the topics discussed:

[Begin recording] [Words indistinct] the developments of recent conditions particularly as we are at the threshold of the Arab summit conference, which will be held during the next few days. We also discussed important and fateful issues to be discussed at the conference. [Words indistinct] this noble stand taken by Tunisia, its president and people. [end recording]

French Envoys, 'Arafat Talk

LD041414 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] The Palestinian reality has imposed itself on the international arena. A French delegation arrived this morning in Tunis to meet with Yasir 'Arafat.

The delegation consists of two representatives of the French Ministry of External Relations, Francis Gutmann and Bruno Delaye. The two envoys will return to France this evening after holding talks with the Palestinian leaders now in Tunisia.

One of the two envoys, Francis Gutmann, held contacts in August with Palestinian officials in Beirut and later visited a number of Middle East capitals.

'Arafat Meets With Boucetta

LD040206 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2332 GMT 3 Sep 82

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, who arrived in Tunis yesterday, met last night with M'hamed Boucetta, Moroccan minister of state in charge of foreign affairs, who handed him a message from King Hassan II, concerning the Fes summit.

'Arafat Leaves for Fes

LD061356 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Statement by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at Tunis airport on departing for Fes summit 6 September -- recorded]

[Text] [Words indistinct] In the name of the PLO Executive Committee and of all my brothers of the Palestinian leadership, I want express thanks at the militant attitude and [word indistinct] which we have found and continue to find in Tunisia from the brother President Habib Bourguiba, from his fraternal and militant government and from all the cadres, leadership and masses of this good and militant people [words indistinct]. Here we must point with all appreciation to the role [words indistinct].

As to your question, we held the first full meeting of the Palestinian leadership after the battle of Beirut here among the [word indistinct] of this good and militant people, in which we made a rapid evaluation of all that the Palestinian Revolution had gone through in the past periods and also we devoted a basic part of this meeting to discussing the Fes summit conference and the issues on its agenda. Of course, we will, God willing, explain the point of view [words indistinct] with sincerity and loyalty [words indistinct] in defense not of Palestine and not of Lebanon but in defense of our entire Arab nation.

PALESTINIAN DELEGATION ARRIVES FROM DAMASCUS

LD050126 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] A Palestinian delegation consisting of a number of representatives of the detachments of the Palestinian Revolution arrived this evening at Tunis-Carthage International Airport coming from Damascus on board a Tunis-Air plane put at their disposal by the Tunisian Government. The Palestinian delegation was accompanied by a Tunisian mission of honor headed by Mohamed Chaker, minister of justice.

CHAD

KAMOUGUE LOSES CONTROL OF MOUNDOU, FLEES

AB051017 Paris AFP in English 0947 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Text] Ndjamena, Sept. 5 (AFP) -- The authorities in Ndjamena have broadcast a communique by mutinous officers of the forces of southern leader Colonel Abdel Kader Kamougue Wadal announcing that his capital of Moundou had gone over to them.

The communique, put out by Radio Chad, said Colonel Kamougue himself was in flight and the Permanent Committee headed by him and which governed the south had been disbanded.

The radio broadcast the communique by dissident officers of Colonel Kamougue's Chadian Armed Forces (FAT) faction to the accompaniment of martial music.

Colonel Kamougue's reported loss of control of his capital, where he was the main obstacle to FAN leader Hissein Habre, who holds Ndjamena, appeared confirmed when his own radio station, Radio Moundou, went off the air yesterday.

HABRE AIDE SAYS FAN CONTROLS REGIONAL CAPITALS

AB061041 Paris AFP in English 1037 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] Paris, Sept. 6 (AFP) -- Forces loyal to former Chadian Defence Minister Hissein Habre now control all 14 of the country's regional capitals and all obstacles to national reconciliation have been lifted, one of Mr. Habre's advisers said here today.

Allam-Mi Ahmad was speaking as unconfirmed reports reached Paris that Colonel Abdel Kader Kamougue Wadal, the former vice-president, leader of the Chadian Armed Forces (FAT) faction and head of the Permament Committee governing the south of Chad, had fled to neighbouring Cameroon.

Mr. Allam-Mi said he did not know what had happened to Col Kamougue, who had reportedly been defeated by rebels of the FAT allied to Mr. Habre's FAN, which captured the Chadian capital of Ndjamena last June and deposed the government of Goukouni Oueddei. He denied a communique issued yesterday from Garoua, northern Cameroon, by the Democratic Revolutionary Council (CDR) faction that troops still loyal to Col. Kamougue and under his command had surrounded the main southern town of Sarh, which went over to the rebels last weekend.

Mr. Allam-Mi said that a crucial moment had arrived for national unity and the establishment of new institutions "in cooperation with all Chadians." Conditions were more favourable than ever for meeting the aspirations of the people for peace and national sovereignty, he added.

National reconciliation would be achieved through a ceasefire, [words indistinct] various sectors of the population, the drawing up of a constitution and free elections in a "reasonable" time, Mr. Allam-Mi said. Such reconciliation did not mean power-sharing among the 11 factions which previously officially existed in Chad, he added. The development of the situation had now ended the delaying tactics of the factional leaders which had been an obstacle to unity.

Mr Allam-Mi said the "return to order and security" in Chad also implied the establishment of a true national army incorporating the "most worthwhile" elements of the various factional armies.

ANGOLA

MPLA-LABOR PARTY POLITICAL BUREAU STATEMENT

AB022150 Luanda ANGOP in French 1755 GMT 2 Sep 82

[Text] Luanda, 2 Sep (ANGOP) -- The Political Bureau of the MPLA-Labor Party issued a statement in Luanda today on the 60th anniversary of the birth of the late President Antonio Agostinho Neto. The following is the contents of the declaration:

The secular struggle of the Angolan people against domination and exploitation was crowned with the glorious proclamation of national independence in the People's Republic of Angola. For this unequalled victory of the Angolan people to become a reality, it became necessary to gather together the experience and efforts of thousands of men, women and children -- the prime examples of courage and self-denial in the history of Angola -- and to put together their ideas of struggle within a vast Angolan People's Liberation Movement -- the MPLA.

However, this great and exemplary liberation can only satisfy one of the visible aspects of the exploitation of our country because to liberate a society means making a revolution and political independence is not complete without economic independence. It was in this light that on 10 December 1977, the MPLA became the MPLA-Labor Party, to defend our revolutionary achievements and to ensure the deepening of the people's revolution.

Thousands of unknown heroes, whose names will forever remain engraved in the memory of all people, gave their lives and set the most noble example of sacrifice to facilitate the victory.

Endowed with all these virtues, the personification of high moral and political qualities and the brain behind the thoughts and actions of the Angolan people, Agostinho Neto -- born on 17 September 1922 -- became the symbol of this struggle, the symbol of national unity and the symbol of all the heroes of the fatherland.

Agostinho Neto clearly was the model of the innate qualities of humanity, intelligence and determination and an example of total commitment to the cause of his people and of all exploited peoples of the world. He was an Angolan student who fought by the side of colleagues -- Angolans, Portuguese and others -- against fascism and colonialism. He also shared the prison cells with them. He was the doctor that transformed solitude into an act of solidarity with the brotherly people of Cape Verde.

He was an intellectual, a poet and a writer who helped to raise Angolan culture to universal heights.

He was the thinker who through action and teaching left a legacy to the party and to the people and contributed creatively to adapting Marxist-Leninist theory to the conditions of our country.

He was an elected fighter and militant who was able to rise to the position of a supreme leader. He was unconditionally international in his support for the liberation of the people of this continent and for all exploited people. He was the first to sacrifice himself but the last to ask for privileges.

The people of Angola celebrate 17 September -- the day of national heroes -- at a time when the fatherland is threatened, assaulted and invaded. The racist South African regime supported by American imperialism persists in its attempts to prevent the real independence of Namibia not only by using diplomatic maneuvers to delay the implementation of UN Resolution 435/78, but also by using aggressive means against neighboring territories, more particularly against our country.

Our party and people reaffirm their readiness to continue supporting the Namibian people's struggle for their independence. As we countered all imperialist maneuvers in the past, we also are prepared today to not give in to the arrogance, the wickedness and the military strength of the imperialist enemy and its puppets.

In their struggle to safeguard their sovereignty and integrity, the Angolan people will continue, as before, to receive aid from other countries which have the same political and ideological positions, as testified to by the presence of the Cuban internationalist forces which at the request of our sovereign state and of the late President Agostinho Neto were sent to our country so that together with the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, they could repel the repeated large-scale attacks against our territory.

The Cuban internationalist forces do not in any way pose any danger to any neighboring state. They are unlike the South African forces which not only illegally occupy Namibian territory but are also stationed in Cunene Province and are trying to reach other areas.

The state of war, the violations and the acts of aggression are the entire responsibility of the racist South African regime and its army. The Cuban internationalist forces will remain on our territory until we are assured of effective guarantees for the respect of our sovereignty and territorial integrity since there is no direct link whatsoever between the Namibian independence process and the presence of the Cuban internationalist forces in Angola.

The Political Bureau of the MPLA-Labor Party and the Government of the People's Republic of Angola reaffirm their (?availability) to the frontline states and the contact group so that the process for the independence of Namibia can be envisaged within the framework of UN Security Council Resolution 435/78.

However, our country assumes, with responsibility, its duty of contributing to the (?struggle) against domination and imperialist, racist and colonial exploitation.

At the same time, and to face the constant aggression of which we are the victims, the Political Bureau once more calls on all Angolans to see the necessity of embarking on the tasks of defending the integrity and sovereignty of the nation as well as the gains of the revolution at a time when international imperialism is trying to carry out a large-scale invasion of the People's Republic of Angola. The enemy's war strategy, as during the preindependence period, consists of coordinating the activities of the armies of the racist South African regime and those of the puppet Angolans and other mercenary forces and setting them against the heroic people of Angola from both the northern and southern borders of our country.

The MPLA-Labor Party reaffirms once more ita availability to fight relentlessly all attacks on its national sovereignty by invoking, if necessary, Article 51 of the UN Charter. It hopes the pledges made within the framework of maintaining a policy of peace and good neighborliness will be respected so that the tense situation prevailing in southern Africa will not worsen.

Faithful to the thoughts and the conceptions of the late President Agostinho Neto, our party continues to believe that political liberation, though important, is not enough to solve all the problems facing the Angolan peoples because as the guide of the Angolan revolution said: Liberation, which is a means of revolution, can in no way be effective if it is not resolute and final and within the framework of a continued process of social development. This process is the political, economic, cultural and technoscientific revolution.

It is within this framework that our party attaches great importance to the participation of the People's Republic of Angola in the activities of various international, continental and regional organizations whose objective is to create new forms and machinery of relations between various states, particularly African states, with a view to achieving real socio-economic development.

On the national level, under the leadership of President Agostinho Neto, a series of economic and social measures were undertaken within the framework of our socialist orientation of development. These measures dealt with the nationalization and socialization of education, health and most of our country's industrial and agricultural enterprises.

Inexperience in the management of the economy coupled with the current world economic crisis and the current war imposed on us by international imperialism are the causes of the economic and financial difficulties we are still facing. These issues, coupled with the weak increase in industrial and agricultural production during the past few years, as well as the nonimplementation by certain leaders and officials of the guidelines laid down by the MPLA-Labor Party leadership, have led to the difficult social conditions workers are now facing.

The Political Bureau further denounces the exploitation activities of speculators who further increase the difficulties of our people and whose trade activities further undermine our socialist development.

Therefore, the Political Bureau once again draws the attention of competent state bodies to the urgent need to put an immediate end to the activities of speculators and smugglers who are becoming a national bourgeoisie linked to international imperialism and its agents.

To counter the difficult economic and financial situation the country is now experiencing, the Central Committee decided at its last meeting to take some measures to contribute to revamping the national economy. Thus, a decision was made to rationally and courageously implement President Jose Eduardo dos Santos' guidelines on the deployment of cadres and their subsequent replacement if they prove to be imcompetent; to take drastic measures to remedy the current situation in the construction sector; and to carry out an analysis and examination of the urgent reconversion of the industrial sector and the transformation of the national plan into an emergency plan of 1983.

Through a series of concerted and goal-oriented measures regarding well-defined strategic sectors of primary importance for the socioeconomic life of the country, the emergency plan is aimed at correcting the most negative aspects of our socioeconomic life liable to create situations that might threaten the attainments of the revolution already registered by our people. These adopted measures must lead to initiating a readdress of the country's economic situation so that the financial structure can effectively play its role as an instrument of direction for our socioeconomic life. The provision of essential commodities for the people must be done through the organization and increase of national output.

The skills created in the key sectors of the economy should benefit as a result. At the same time, we should carry out rigorous control of all activities whose functioning depend on the nation's economic and social life, especially the sectors that control the various [word indistinct]. In the provinces experiencing a state of war, economic and social measures (?must give way) to military demands.

For this emergency plan to achieve its objectives, full activity is necessary in all sectors and the party, the youth wing of the party and the National Union of Workers of Angola should let their best political and union cadres work in the sectors [words indistinct].

On the occasion of the 60th birthday of Agostinho Neto, immortal guide of the Angolan revolution, founder of the nation and of the MPLA-Labor Party, the Political Bureau invites the Angolan people, all members of the party, workers and farmers, intellectuals and soldiers of the first and second war for national liberation, defense and security forces, women and children, youth and students, the old and all patriots, to actively and conscienciously participate in the carrying out of the task of production, defense, organization, education and discipline in order to guarantee the consolidation and strengthening of the revolution, by constantly taking inspiration from the indestructible bequest of Agostinho Neto.

MOZAMBIQUE

TETE CITIZENS GIVEN ARMS TO COMBAT 'BANDITS'

LD040124 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 3 Sep 82

[Text] In Tete, members of the party provincial committee, deputies of the provincial assembly and workers were given arms at a mass rally held on 1 September under the chairmanship of Governor Joao Batista Cosme. The mass rally marked the culmination of a series of mass demonstrations held in a number of regions of Tete Province in support of the speech by President Samora Machel made at the 22 June rally, which dealt mainly with the armed bandits. At the rally, Joao Batista Cosme emphasized the need for every residential area to have an organized force to defend the people. He went on to say that more arms will be distributed to the members of the general public as they become politically and militarily prepared. A number of armed bandits captured in Tete Province were paraded at the rally. They told the people about their criminal actions. Speaking afterward, Joao Batista Cosme said the armed bandits, like hoarders, smugglers and saboteurs, should be vigorously combated.

ZIMBABWE

AIR FORCE OFFICERS ARRESTED IN BOMBING PROBE

NC062242 Paris AFP in English 2226 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] Harare, Sep 6 (AFP) -- The deputy commander of the Zimbabwe Air Force, Air Vice-Marshal Hugh Slatter, has been held for questioning by security forces for nearly a week, reliable sources said here today. Air Commodore Philip Pile, 42, director of operations in the air force, was also taken into custody by security forces last Monday night, according to his wife. The officers, the number two and three men in the air force, join 12 other white air force officers who have been detained in connection with the July 25 sabotage of the Thornhill Air Force Base, in which an estimated one quarter of Zimbabwe's Air Force was destroyed. Others in detention include the director of Air Force Intelligence and the commander of the air force regiment in charge of guarding air force installations, the sources said.

The early-morning explosions at the air force base near Gweru, in central Zimbabwe, were reportedly caused by plastic charges set with air force-type stopwatch timers taped in the engine compartments of several of Zimbabwe's jet fighters.

Prime Minister Robert Mugabe said recently he suspected air force men were involved in planning the devastating sabotage. Air force officers are particularly suspect because of the high concentration of whites among them who were officers in the Rhodesian Air Force.